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## ABSTRACT

Intended for teachers of grades 4-8, this book provides tools and resources to help students fall in love with literature. The book contains reproducible glossaries containing over 200 literary, genre, book content, and book construction terms, along with removable flashcards, to make reviewing language arts essentials easy, enjoyable, and fun. The book provides game suggestions such as tic-tac-toe and "Jeopardy." The book's literary terms glossary and flashcards include figurative language, creative devices, story parts, skills, and similar expressions related to poetry and prose. The Genre glossary and flashcards cover both content (poetry and prose) and form (fiction and nonfiction). The Book Terminology glossary and flashcards cover book content and construction, with terms ranging in difficulty from simple to advanced. The book's instructions suggest that definitions and examples can be modified by using titles and excerpts students will recognize and that unfamiliar listed examples can be used as springboards to introduce and seek out new titles or pieces. (CR)

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# LANGUAGE ARTS LINGGO



Grades 4-8

Glossaries and Flashcards  
for 200+ Terms

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# LANGUAGE ARTS LINGO

**Glossaries and Flashcards for  
200+ Terms**

by R. Howard Blount, Jr.

Good Apple

Dedication.

For my fellow scholars and students,  
those present and those yet to come . . .

Psalm 119:130 ■ 2 Timothy 3:15

Editor: Donna Garzinsky



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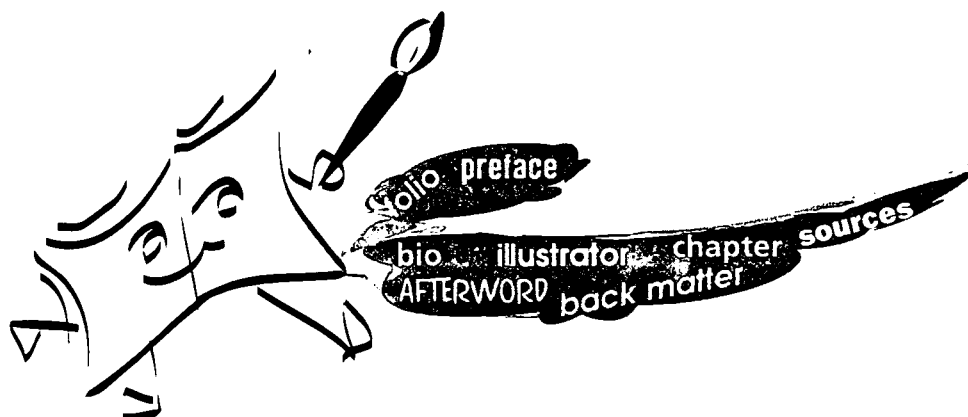
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# INTRODUCTION

## Using Literary Glossaries and Flashcards

Dear Colleagues,

In my literature-based sixth-grade classroom, my ultimate goal is to convert my average students into junior literary snobs, or at least to encourage them to fall deeply in love with reading and writing. Students delve into the rich world of literature, including the study of literary terms, genre, and book terminology.

To accomplish this, I've developed the following set of literary glossaries and flashcards for student use. The three reproducible glossaries contained in **Language Arts Lingo** become a permanent reference in my students' folders. Students mark selected glossary entries with a highlighter pen for easy focus and referral. To help students review the glossaries' content, I put the terms on homemade flashcards. The flashcards included in this book are designed to be removed and separated along the perforations. You may wish to laminate them. My students invented games to play and even asked to use the cards for study. They internalized and increased their retention of the material dramatically. They even trounced "gifted" classes in the school Library Jeopardy tournament! Because the flashcards have been so beneficial in my classroom, I believe they will be equally effective for other language arts teachers as well.

The glossaries and flashcards are each divided into three domains: Literary Terms, Genre, and Book Terminology. A single term is printed on the front side of each flashcard. On the reverse side are the term's definition and, where possible, authentic examples from literature. Each card is labeled for its domain, for example, **LT1** is **Literary Terms #1**, **G2**—**Genre terms #2**, and **BT5**—**Book Terms #5**.

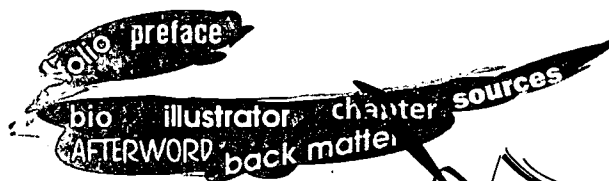


The Literary Terms glossary and flashcards include figurative language, creative devices, story parts, skills, and similar expressions related to poetry and prose. The Genre glossary and flashcards cover both content (poetry and prose) and form (fiction and nonfiction). The Book Terminology glossary and flashcards cover book content and construction. The terms range in difficulty from simple to advanced. You will be the one best able to determine the terms most appropriate for your class.

Feel free to modify definitions and examples by using titles and excerpts your students will recognize. Use any unfamiliar listed examples as springboards to introduce and seek out new titles or pieces. Examples that include blank spaces in the titles indicate where the key term is part of the title. In these cases, simply say the word **blank** instead.

It is my hope that these glossaries and flashcards will enhance the instruction, review, and retention of literary terms in your classroom and in the process increase student understanding of the literature that so enriches our lives. If you find this resource to be valuable and have a success story to share, I would enjoy hearing from you. Feedback of any kind is always welcome. Please send all correspondence with a SASE.

Literarily yours,  
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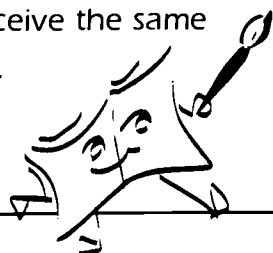
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# Literary Flashcard Games

The three main ways to give clues or ask questions with literary flashcards are by **term**, **definition**, or **example**. If you call out a **term**, the contestants provide either an acceptable definition or example. If you call out a **definition** or an **example**, the players provide the correct term. Variations of these methods are only limited by your creativity. Following are several games and variations that work well with literary flashcards.

## Quiz Teams

Organize teams of three to five players each. Call out a question or clue to each team sequentially. Team members have 15 seconds to determine their response, then the captain must give the answer. Award one point (tally mark) for each correct response. For incorrect responses, the next team gets a chance to steal a point by providing a correct response. If they answer correctly, award the point. If the response is incorrect, provide the answer. Proceed by calling out the next question or clue for the same team. Continue play, making sure that all teams receive the same number of turns.



## Creative Team Play and Scorekeeping Variations

Instead of keeping score by tally marks, try the following variations.

- Play tic-tac-toe by drawing a large 3 x 3 matrix (grid with 3 columns and 3 rows) on the chalkboard. Correct responses allow opposing teams to place an **X** or **O** on the board. Each "three-in-a-row" wins a point. No point is awarded for a "cat" (when neither team is able to complete three in a row). Try more exciting games with a 4 x 4 or 5 x 5 matrix.
- Draw a "literary football field" on the chalkboard or markerboard. Use small magnets for players. Each correct response allows the teams to advance their magnetic players ten yards up the field. The first team to reach the opposing goal line wins.
- Draw a "literary baseball diamond" on the chalkboard or markerboard. Use small magnets for players. Each correct response allows a team to advance its magnetic players one base around the diamond. The team that scores the most runs wins. For variation, play with single, double, triple, and home-run questions.



- Play 20 questions. The team to first collect 20 points is the winner.
- If you regularly play with the same teams, try keeping a running score on a wall chart.

## Literary Jeopardy

Design a Jeopardy game panel on a standard or tall science project board. Add three columns labeled **Literary Terms**, **Genre**, and **Book Terminology**. Glue five library-card pockets vertically under each heading, assigning them point values 100 through 500. Select flashcards from the appropriate domains and place them in the pockets according to degree of difficulty, with 100 being the easiest and 500 the most difficult. Identify two "daily doubles" if so desired. Contestants may compete as two individuals or two teams.

The game begins with one team selecting an answer category and value. The host reads the definition from the flashcard, and the player or team must provide the term in question format (for example, **What is simile?**). If the response is correct, the assigned points are awarded. If the response is incorrect, the opposing team gets to steal. (Daily double answers may not be stolen.) If their answer is correct, the assigned points are awarded. If the response is incorrect, the host provides

the answer. Play continues with the same team selecting a category and value.

When all categories have been exhausted, the host states the "final Jeopardy" answer category. Contestants wager based on their total scores and write the amount on a sheet of paper. When the answer is read, the players write their responses below the wager and submit the papers to the host. When the responses have been read, final scores are tallied, and the winner(s) are declared. (Thanks, Carol!)

## Card Collecting

The object of card collecting is for contestants to collect as many flashcards as possible. One version is played with a host and a small group (up to three players). When the host delivers a question or clue, the contestants shout out their responses. The host determines the contestant who first gave the correct response and awards the flashcard to that player. If no correct response is given, the host provides the answer, and the card is placed at the bottom of the stack. The game continues until all of the preselected cards have been distributed. Contestants then count their cards. The player with the most cards is declared the winner.

# PART 1 Glossaries

## Literary Terms

**acronym** ▪ a new word created from the first letters of a series of words

**allegory** ▪ a literary piece that disguises a deeper meaning within the story

**alliteration** ▪ the repetition of the same initial sounds in a series of words

**allusion** ▪ a passing reference to a historical or literary person, place, event, or work that is not explained in the piece

**analogy** ▪ the explanation of an idea by means of a figurative, more familiar parallel idea

**annotation** ▪ a brief description or summary accompanying a bibliographic listing

**antagonist** ▪ the most prominent character who opposes the protagonist; the villain

**aphorism** ▪ a brief statement expressing a general truth

**archetype** ▪ a universally recognized setting, character, symbol, theme, or image that regularly appears in literature

**bibliophile** ▪ a person who loves books; a "biblioholic"

**bibliophobe** ▪ a person who hates or fears books

**characterization** ▪ the description of the internal attributes of story characters

**character** ▪ a person or animal around whose actions a story revolves

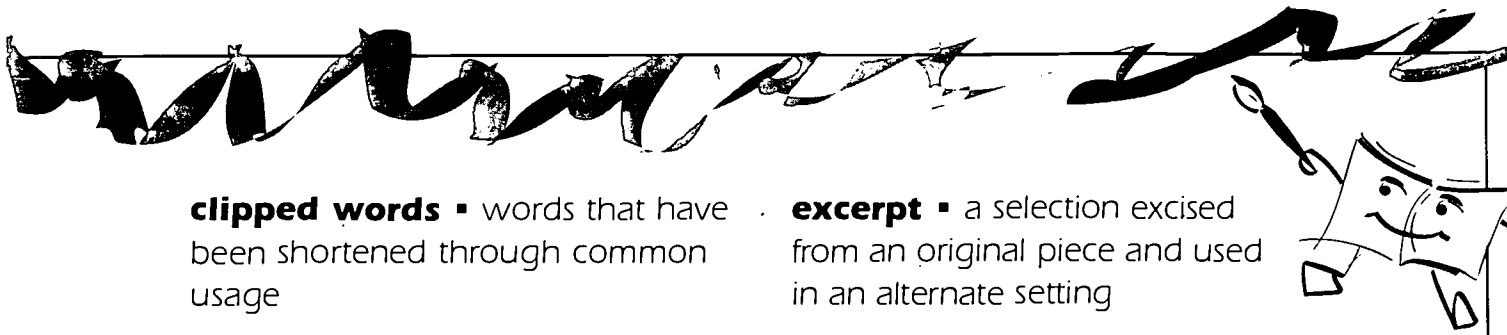
**main character** ▪ the central story personage

**secondary character** ▪ an essential supporting story personage

**cliché** ▪ a highly overused word or expression

**cliffhanger** ▪ a device of suspense that leaves the reader wanting to read on

**climax** ▪ the turning point of the plot or story action, usually characterized by great intensity



**clipped words** ▪ words that have been shortened through common usage

**conflict** ▪ the primary battle or problem faced by the protagonist

**internal conflict** ▪ the struggle within a character

**external conflict** ▪ the character's struggle with an outside force

**connotation** ▪ a word's suggested variation or shade of meaning

**cyclical story** ▪ a story that ends where it began

**denotation** ▪ the dictionary meaning of a word

**dialect** ▪ a distinctive form of a language spoken by members of an identifiable regional, national, or social group

**dialogue** ▪ the exact words spoken by story characters; conversation

**epithet** ▪ a word or phrase used to capture a person's most outstanding characteristic

**eponym** ▪ a word whose origin is a person's name

**euphemism** ▪ verbiage that puts a positive, respectful slant on a negative subject

**excerpt** ▪ a selection excised from an original piece and used in an alternate setting

**falling action** ▪ the plot events immediately following the climax that lead to the resolution; dénouement

**figurative language** ▪ creative language or figures of speech used in poetry and prose

**flashback** ▪ recalling previous events at a latter point within a story; analepsis

**foreshadowing** ▪ literary clues that allude to future story events

**genre** ▪ traditionally the five major classifications of literature—drama, poetry, fiction, nonfiction, and essay; commonly referred to as any particular type of published writing characterized by form or content

**hero** or **heroine** ▪ a story character who exhibits remarkable strength or courage

**hyperbole** ▪ the use of obvious excessive exaggeration

**idiom** ▪ a common saying unique to a group of people that has a meaning apart from its literal translation; idiomatic expression

**imagery** ▪ descriptive language that evokes mental impressions of the five senses



**introduction** ▪ the beginning of a plot sequence that acquaints the reader with characters and setting

**irony** ▪ the contrast between the way something appears to be and what it actually is

**jargon** ▪ conversational language unique to a group, trade, or profession

**kenning** ▪ a brief metaphor or stock phrase used in place of a more familiar term

**linear story** ▪ a story that begins at one point and ends at a distant point

**literary license** ▪ the author's right to break the rules of standard spelling, grammar, and punctuation for the sake of creativity

**literature** ▪ creative writing of universally recognized artistic value

**malapropism** ▪ the misuse of words characterized by confusion with similar terms

**meiosis** ▪ a form of understatement whereby something is referred to in less-than-accurate terms

**metaphor** ▪ a comparison between two distinct objects that does not use the words **like** or **as**

**meter** ▪ a systematic pattern and measure of rhythm used in poetry

**metonymy** ▪ replacing the name of one thing with the name of another closely associated thing

**mood** ▪ the general feeling evoked in a reader through the author's use of words

**moral** ▪ a lesson or principle intentionally communicated through the form of a story

**motivation** ▪ a story character's reason for exhibiting a particular behavior

**narrative** ▪ any form of writing that tells a story

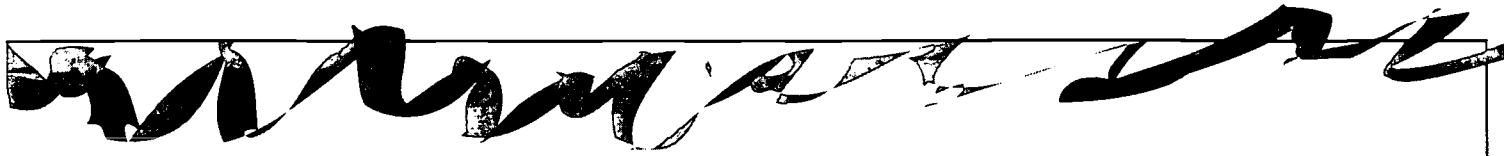
**narrator** ▪ the person telling the story, usually a character or the author

**onomatopoeia** ▪ the use of words that imitate sounds

**oxymoron** ▪ the combined use of terms that seem to be contradictory

**pace** ▪ the rate at which a story moves along, defined by the tension between descriptive passages and action sequences

**palindrome** ▪ a word or phrase that reads the same both forward and backward



**paradox** ▪ a statement or situation whereby two opposing conditions exist simultaneously

**parody** ▪ the imitation of an author's style or literary work, most commonly for amusement

**personification** ▪ attributing human characteristics to nonhuman objects

**plagiarism** ▪ passing off the writings of another person as one's own

**plot** ▪ the sequence of story events

**poetic justice** ▪ a deserved happy ending for heroes and a sad fate for villains

**poetic license** ▪ the poet's freedom to depart from conventional poetic devices

**point of view** ▪ the perspective from which a story is told

**first person** ▪ the story told from the author's or one character's perspective, characterized by use of the pronouns **I, me, my, we, us, and our**

**third person omniscient** ▪ the narrator tells the story from the perspective of more than one character

**third person limited** ▪ the narrator tells the story from one character's perspective

**portmanteau words** ▪ words with dual meanings that have been blended through common usage

**protagonist** ▪ the main character in a story; the hero or heroine

**pun** ▪ a play on words involving two similar-sounding words that have distinctive meanings

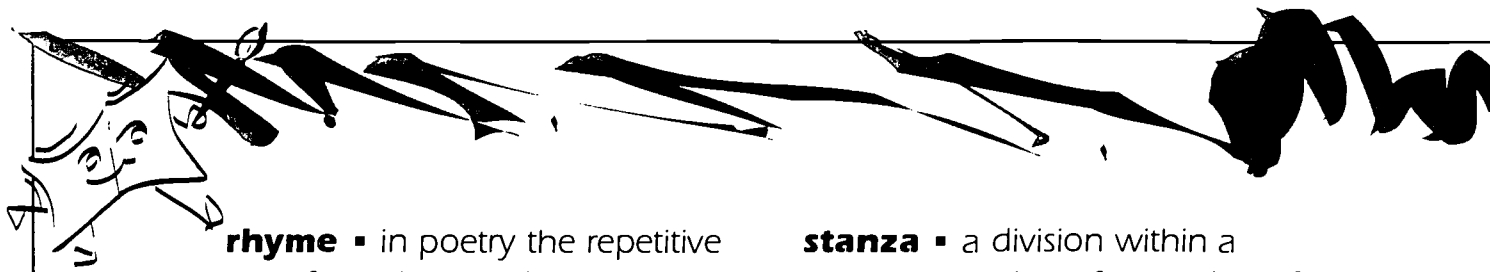
**purpose** ▪ the author's reason for writing a literary piece, most commonly to entertain, inform, persuade, or describe

**quote** or **quotation** ▪ a reference to the exact words spoken by another well-known person or used in a recognized literary work

**redundancy** ▪ the unnecessary sequential use of two or more words with identical or similar meanings; overblown phrasing

**repetition** ▪ the effective use of recurrent words, phrases, incidents, themes, images, or symbols in a literary piece

**resolution** ▪ the final plot component immediately following the falling action; the outcome of a story



**rhyme** ▪ in poetry the repetitive use of words or ending syllables that share the same sound

**rhyme scheme** ▪ a standard rhyming pattern

**rhythm** ▪ a poetic beat using light and heavy stress patterns; the harmonious pattern of syllables in prose

**rising action** ▪ the plot events that lead to the climax; complication

**satire** ▪ humorous mockery of the folly, vice, or stupidity of deserving individuals or institutions in hope of effecting reform

**scene** ▪ in drama, the subdivision of a play or an act; one event in a story

**sequence of events** ▪ the standard plot flow—introduction, rising action, climax, falling action, resolution

**setting** ▪ the time and place in which a story takes place

**simile** ▪ a comparison between two distinct objects using the words **like** or **as**

**slang** ▪ nonstandard colorful sayings or terms; irreverent street language

**stanza** ▪ a division within a poem, consisting of a number of related lines

**style** ▪ an author's unique way of writing—creative or recognizable uses of theme, diction, syntax, imagery, rhythm, or figurative language

**subplot** ▪ a minor related story within the dominant plot

**surprise ending** ▪ an unexpected conclusion to a story, often marked by satisfaction or disappointment

**suspense** ▪ the feelings of excitement, anxiety, and anticipation radiating from a story that motivate the reader to read on

**symbolism** ▪ the use of images in literature that represent other entities or meanings

**synecdoche** ▪ referring to a whole by one of its parts or a more comprehensive whole

**theme** ▪ the author's message or the main idea of a story

**tone** ▪ manner of expression revealing author's attitude toward subject matter or reader

# Genre

**adventure** ▪ a literary work with elements of risk, action, and suspense

**ABC poem** ▪ unrhymed verse of up to 26 lines, each word beginning sequentially with the letters of the alphabet

**almanac** ▪ a reference book published annually that contains updated statistics, lists, tables, and charts of information from many fields

**anecdote** ▪ a brief interesting or humorous story

**anthology** ▪ a collection of literary pieces, such as poems, essays, short stories, or plays, contained in one volume

**atlas** ▪ a reference book of maps, geographic tables, and charts

**autobiography** ▪ the story of a person's life written by that person

**ballad** ▪ a narrative poem or folk song with simple stanzas and a recurring refrain

**biography** ▪ the story of a person's life

**cento** ▪ a rhymed aabbcc "patchwork" poem consisting of lines borrowed from various existing poems

**chapbook** ▪ a cheaply produced pamphlet sold by peddlers from the sixteenth to nineteenth centuries; a small, often self-published, paperback book of poetry

**cinquain** ▪ an unrhymed 5-line poem dividing 22 syllables into a 2-4-6-8-2 pattern

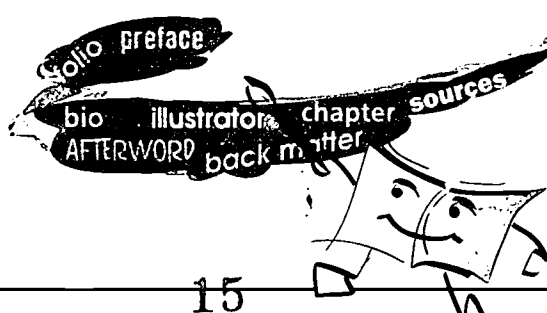
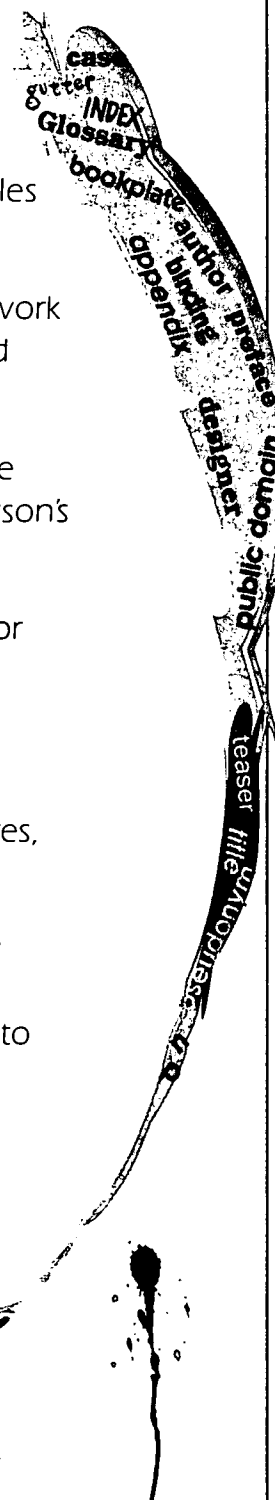
**classic** ▪ a definitive literary work that has been widely read and recognized for many years

**clerihew** ▪ a humorous 4-line rhymed poem based on a person's name

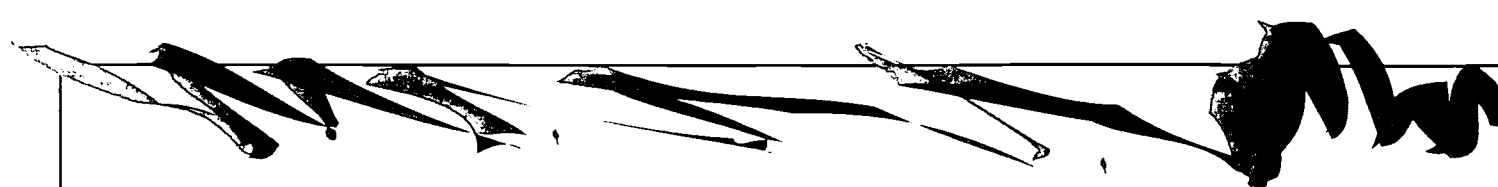
**comedy** ▪ a humorous play or literary work

**comic strip** ▪ a humorous vignette illustrated with multipaneled scenes, caricatures, and ballooned dialogue

**companion title** ▪ a literary piece that stands alone but is related in character or setting to another work







**concrete poem** ▪ verse arranged visually or shaped to represent its theme

**contemporary fiction** ▪ a literary work with no distinguishable regional or periodic attachments that technically could occur anywhere in modern times

**couplet** ▪ a 2-lined rhyming stanza or poem

**diamante** ▪ a form of unrhymed poetry that physically resembles a diamond; related to cinquain

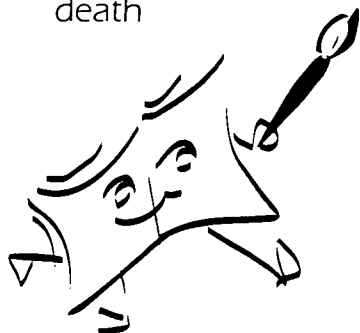
**diary** ▪ a daily written record of one's personal experiences

**dictionary** ▪ a reference book for finding meanings, pronunciations, and other information related to words

**drama** ▪ a literary work designed for public performance by actors

**dramatic poem** ▪ a narrative play written in verse form, involving two or more voices

**elegy** ▪ a poem lamenting a death



**encyclopedia** ▪ a comprehensive reference book containing articles on a wide variety of topics

**epic** ▪ a long narrative work of poetry, prose, or drama that ceremoniously recounts the deeds of a legendary hero

**epigram** ▪ a concise, clever poem that expresses a single observation

**epitaph** ▪ a short poem, often engraved on a tombstone, that memorializes someone who has died

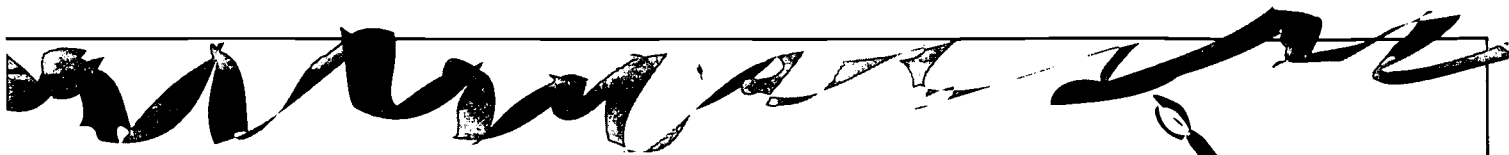
**essay** ▪ a short, formal or informal, written discussion of a subject; composition

**eulogy** ▪ a spoken or written tribute praising someone who has died

**fable** ▪ a short story with a moral; commonly uses animal characters with human characteristics

**fairy tale** ▪ a story involving legendary royalty, commoners, and magical characters; often begins with **Once upon a time . . .** and ends with **. . . they lived happily ever after.**





**fantasy** ▪ a fictional work marked by supernatural or magical characters and events that could not happen in real life

**high fantasy** ▪ set within a created world

**low fantasy** ▪ set within the real world

**fiction** ▪ a literary work created by the author's imagination; an untrue story

**folklore** ▪ the traditional oral culture of a people: its beliefs, practices, myths, folk tales, legends, fables, fairy tales, parables, and tall tales

**folk tale** ▪ a magical story that is unique to a cultural group and that has been modified by years of oral retellings prior to being put into print

**free verse** ▪ poetry that follows no standard pattern of rhythm or rhyme

**grue** ▪ a short, simple, gruesome rhyming poem

**haiku** ▪ a 3-line, 17-syllable poetic form of Japanese origin that describes a single natural image in a 5-7-5 syllabic pattern

**historical fiction** ▪ an untrue story set in an authentic period from the past and characterized by events that could have happened

**horror** ▪ a literary work marked by elements of extreme suspense told in shocking, gruesome detail; a thriller

**humor** ▪ a funny literary work

**informational book** ▪ nonfiction title that provides extensive data on a particular topic

**interactive fiction** ▪ a story that allows the reader to determine the direction the narrative will take

**journal** ▪ a written record of experiences, reflections, and perceptions that is appended on a regular basis

**journalism** ▪ written pieces that deal with news items and that are published in periodicals or reported through the media

**legend** ▪ an unverified story passed down orally from generation to generation



**letter** ▪ any formal or informal written communication from one person to another

**light verse** ▪ an amusing form of verse having no serious purpose

**limerick** ▪ a humorous 5-line poem in which the first, second, and fifth lines rhyme and contain 3 stresses, while the third and fourth lines rhyme and contain 2 stresses

**lyric poem** ▪ a form of melodious verse; hymn, ode, psalm, ballad, sonnet, elegy

**memoir** ▪ an autobiographical account concerning a period in one's life

**modern classic** ▪ a newly published literary work that has gained considerable attention and has been widely read in recent years

**mystery** ▪ a literary work featuring a plot that revolves around an unsolved crime

**myth** ▪ an ancient story of gods, goddesses, and superhuman heroes that explains events from a cultural standpoint

**narrative poem** ▪ a poem that tells a story

**nonfiction** ▪ any true written work

**nonsense** ▪ an amusing poem characterized by uses of nonexistent terms and illogical ideas

**novel** ▪ a book-length work of fictional prose with a complex extended plot

**novelle** ▪ a cheaply produced, sensational short novel; pulp fiction

**novella** ▪ a fictional work of intermediate length and complexity that place it between a short story and a novel; a short novel

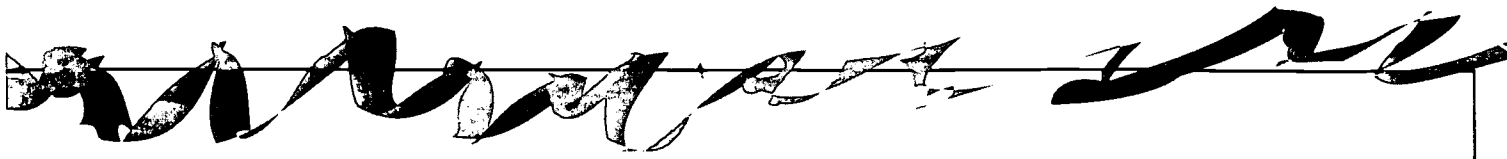
**nursery rhyme** ▪ traditional rhythmic rhyming verse for young children

**ode** ▪ a lengthy, formal lyric poem with a serious tone

**parable** ▪ an allegorical story that illustrates a religious lesson or moral

**parallel poem** ▪ verse in which each line begins or ends with the same word or phrase

**pastoral poem** ▪ verse about country life, especially related to shepherding; idyll



**periodical** ▪ a regularly issued news publication; newspaper, magazine, bulletin

**play** ▪ a drama acted out onstage

**poetry** ▪ creative writing characterized by formal patterns of verse, thought and emotion, lines and stanzas, rhythm and rhyme

**prequel** ▪ a companion literary piece, complete in itself, that gives an account of events prior to the narrative of an earlier work

**propaganda** ▪ information or ideas distributed by commercial advertisers or the promoters of a political belief or cause; persuasive techniques include bandwagoning, glittering generality, red herring, transfer, snob appeal, testimonial, prestige identification, card stacking, plain folks, exigency, name calling, flag waving, innuendo

**prose** ▪ writing characterized by sentences and paragraphs; any type of writing that is not poetry

**proverb** ▪ a short, widely used saying that expresses a general truth

**quatrain** ▪ a 4-line rhyming stanza or poem

**realistic fiction** ▪ a created literary piece involving elements that could actually occur in life

**reference books** ▪ volumes containing extensive information within a specific area; dictionary, thesaurus, encyclopedia, almanac, atlas

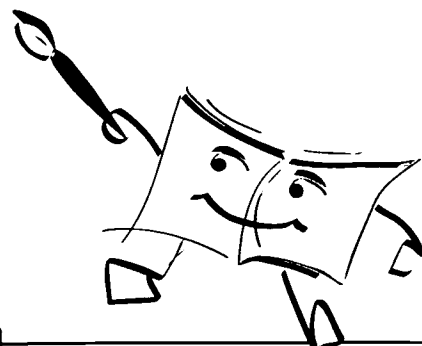
**romance** ▪ a literary work featuring a plot that revolves around a love affair


**science fiction** ▪ a futuristic work of literary fantasy characterized by time and space travel, nonexistent technology, alien creatures, and other improbable scientific events

**script** ▪ the written version of a play or motion picture

**sequel** ▪ a companion literary piece, complete in itself, that continues the narrative of an earlier work

**serial** ▪ a collection of stories published in sequential installments that feature the same characters, setting, or theme





**sermon** ▪ a religious discourse offering words of encouragement and correction

**short story** ▪ a brief work of fiction that can be read in one sitting

**soliloquy** ▪ a dramatic monologue given by a lone character

**sonnet** ▪ a 14-line rhyming lyric poem with lines of equal length that follows one of several conventional rhyme schemes

**tabloid** ▪ a highly illustrated, half-size newspaper featuring sensational stories and general gossip

**tall tale** ▪ a humorous, highly exaggerated story detailing the impossible feats of a folk character

**tanka** ▪ a 5-line, 31-syllable poetic form of Japanese origin in a 5-7-5-7-7 syllabic pattern; related to haiku

**tercet** ▪ a 3-line rhymed stanza or poem; a triplet

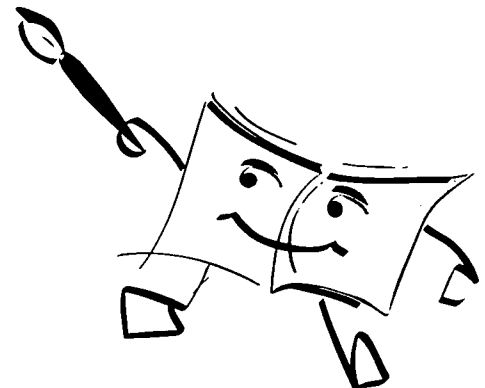
**textbook** ▪ a book adopted by schools for the formal study of an academic subject area

**thesaurus** ▪ a reference book used for finding synonyms and antonyms of words

**tragedy** ▪ a serious play or literary work with an unhappy or disastrous ending

**trilogy** ▪ a collection of three related literary works

**western** ▪ a literary work with a plot that revolves around frontier life in the American West



# Book Terminology Glossary

## Book Content Terms

**acknowledgments** ▪ a word of appreciation to individuals or groups who provided significant assistance in the creation of a book

**afterword** ▪ a word from the author immediately following the text or narrative; author's note

**anonymous** ▪ a term used when the author is unknown or wishes to remain unknown

**appendix** ▪ a supplement to a book, usually included in the back matter

**author** ▪ the writer of a book

**back matter** ▪ book parts located behind the main text of the book; appendix, glossary, sources, bibliography, index

**bibliography** ▪ list of sources or titles used or recommended by an author

**bio** ▪ a short biography of an author or illustrator

**chapter** ▪ a major subdivision of a book

**copyright** ▪ a form of protection provided by U.S. law to authors of

"original works of authorship," including literature, drama, music, and other genres. The owner of the copyright has the exclusive right to do or authorize others to do such things as reproduce the work, distribute the work, or perform the work.

**copyright date** ▪ the year a book is published


**dedication** ▪ statement identifying an individual or group an author wishes to remember

**designer** ▪ a graphic artist who creates the overall appearance of a book, including selection of paper, colors, fonts, and images

**edition line** ▪ a line on the copyright page that indicates the book's order of printing. This line indicates a first edition: 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

**editor** ▪ a publisher's representative who acquires and prepares manuscripts from authors for publication

**epigraph** ▪ a quotation usually from a speech, poem, or scripture placed at the front of a book that is indicative of the book's theme



**epilogue** ▪ a summarizing or concluding passage at the end of a story; a passage that tells what happened after the story

**folio** ▪ a page number

**foreword** ▪ an introductory word from the author or guest writer

**front matter** ▪ the book parts located before the main text of the book; half title, ad card, frontispiece, title page, copyright page, dedication, acknowledgments, table of contents, epigraph, preface, foreword, introduction

**glossary** ▪ an alphabetical listing of book-related terms and definitions

**illustrator** ▪ the book's artist

**index** ▪ an alphabetical listing of important words and the page numbers where they are used in the text

**introduction** ▪ a fairly long note from the author or another person that provides important background information for the book

**ISBN** ▪ International Standard Book Number; the universal order number

**permissions** ▪ a list of statements giving permission to use excerpts from other copyrighted works

**preface** ▪ a brief note from an author

**prologue** ▪ an introductory or opening passage at the beginning of a story; a passage that tells what happened prior to the story

**pseudonym** ▪ an assumed name some writers use for publishing purposes; a pen name

**public domain** ▪ literary works no longer protected by copyright laws

**publisher** ▪ a company that prints and distributes books

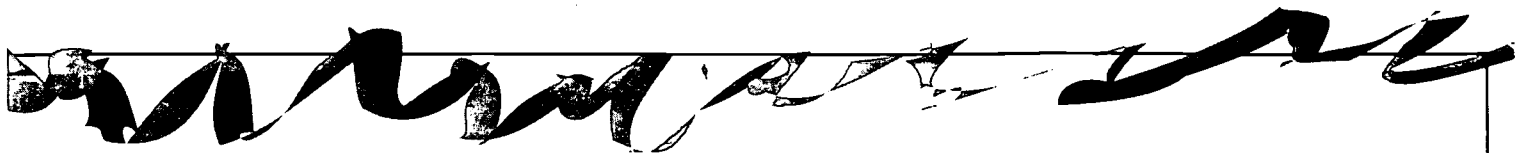
**sources** ▪ a bibliography of published matter used as research for a book

**summary** ▪ a brief description of the book, located on the front flap of the dustjacket, on the back cover, or on the copyright page; a synopsis

**table of contents** ▪ a list of chapter titles and page numbers

**teaser** ▪ a brief phrase on the book cover designed to make you want to read the book

**title** ▪ the name of a book



## Book Construction Terms

**binding** ▪ the sewn, stapled, or glued edge of a book

**blanks** ▪ surplus pages at the back of a book

**blind stamping** ▪ designs and letters embossed or impressed on hardcover book bindings without color or gilding

**bookplate** ▪ a label pasted inside a book's front cover that names the owner; ex libris

**case** ▪ a hard or soft book cover

**copyright page** ▪ the verso of the title page, containing the copyright date, a rights statement, the full address of the publisher, an edition line, the Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication (CIP) notice, and ISBN

**dust jacket** ▪ a paper book cover used with most hardcover books

**endpapers** ▪ heavy sheets of paper glued to connect the front and back of a book to its cover

**errata slip** ▪ a loose or pasted slip of printed paper inserted in a book to indicate and correct errors discovered after printing

**frontispiece** ▪ a book-related map or illustration

**gutter** ▪ the inside margins of two facing pages

**half title** ▪ a page listing only the book's title

**hardcover** ▪ a book with a rigid binding and cover

**leaf** ▪ one sheet of paper; two pages

**page** ▪ one side of a leaf

**paperback** ▪ a book with a soft cover; also called a softcover

**recto** ▪ the front side of a leaf; a right-hand page

**spine** ▪ the folded and bound edge of a book; backstrip

**title page** ▪ the page listing the book's title, author, illustrator, publisher, and place of publication

**verso** ▪ the back side of a leaf; a left-hand page



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LT2

**allegory**

LT1

**acronym**

LT4

**allusion**

LT3

**alliteration**

**acronym** ■ a new word created from the first letters of a series of words

LT1

### Examples

**scuba** self-contained underwater breathing apparatus

**dj** disc jockey

**laser** light amplification by stimulated emission of radiation

**radar** radio detecting and ranging

**snafu** situation normal all fouled up

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**allegory** ■ a literary piece that disguises a deeper meaning within the story

LT2

### Example

In **The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe**, by C. S. Lewis, Lewis suggests in his writings that his central character—Aslan, the great lion—has another name. When questioned by a little girl in Texas, Lewis replied, "As to Aslan's other name, well, I want you to guess. Has there never been anyone in this world who (1) Arrived the same time as Father Christmas (2) Said he was the Son of the Great Emperor (3) Gave himself up for someone else's fault to be jeered at and killed by wicked people (4) Came to life again (5) Is sometimes spoken of as a Lamb? Don't you really know His name in this world?"

—Lindskoog, Kathryn. **The Lion of Judah in Never-Never Land**. Eerdmans, 1973.

**alliteration** ■ the repetition of the same initial sounds in a series of words

LT3

### Examples

Miss Sook was ruminating on these matters while my mind wandered through a maze as melancholy as the wet twilight.

—Capote, Truman. **The Thanksgiving Visitor**. Random House, 1967.

Silver stars spun before his eyes.

—Wallace, Bill. **Trapped in Death Cave**. Holiday House, 1984.

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**allusion** ■ a passing reference to a historical or literary person, place, event, or work that is not explained in the piece

LT4

### Examples

In Maya Angelou's 1992 inaugural poem for President Clinton, entitled "On the Pulse of the Morning," Angelou mentions "The Rock, the River, the Tree . . ." referring to the African American spirituals "No Hiding Place Down Here," "Deep River," "Down by the Riverside," and "I Shall Not Be Moved."

Among the vast number of symbols employed by T. S. Eliot in his five-part poem, "The Waste Land," are references to Ecclesiastes XII, **Antony and Cleopatra**, **Paradise Lost**, St. Augustine's **Confessions**, and Buddha's **Fire Sermon**.

LT6

**annotation**

LT5

**analogy**

LT8

**aphorism**

LT7

**antagonist**

**analogy** - the explanation of an idea by means of a figurative, more familiar parallel idea

LT5

### Examples

allegory

kenning

metaphor

personification

simile

symbolism

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**annotation** - a brief description or summary accompanying a bibliographic listing

LT6

### Examples

DePaola, Tomie. **Sing, Pierrot, Sing**. Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1983. (The sweetly sad love story of Pierrot, the famed jester of French pantomime, told through color, image, and tradition.)

Spier, Peter. **Rain**. Doubleday, 1982. (Showers, rain, dew drops, puddles, streams, and storms accompany children as they run from the first page to the last.)

—Blount, Jr., R. Howard. **Implementing Literature-Based Instruction and Authentic Assessment**. T. S. Denison, 1996.

**antagonist** - the most prominent character who opposes the protagonist; the villain

LT7

### Examples

Gordy Smith from **Stepping on the Cracks** by Mary Downing Hahn

Odie Ralston from **Trapped in Death Cave** by Bill Wallace

Judd Travers from **Shiloh** by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor

The Sheriff of Nottingham from Robin Hood legends

Medusa from Greek mythology

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**aphorism** - a brief statement expressing a general truth

LT8

### Example

'Tis better to have loved and lost

Than never to have loved at all.

—Alfred, Lord Tennyson

31

32

92

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LT10

**bibliophile**

LT9

**archetype**

LT12

**characterization**

LT11

**bibliophobe**

**archetype** - a universally recognized setting, character, symbol, theme, or image that regularly appears in literature

LT10

### Examples

**A Perfect Society**—Utopia, Camelot, Shangri-la, Eden, the Community

**The Christ Figure**—Shane, Hercules, Billy Budd, Thomas More

**The Rebel**—Gilly Hopkins, Shoestring, Leslie Burke

**The Snob**—Prince Brat, Caroline Bradshaw

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**bibliophile** - a person who loves books; a "biblioholic"

### Examples

a librarian

a book collector

an avid reader

a bookstore proprietor

Amanda Beale from **Maniac Magee** by Jerry Spinelli

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**bibliophobe** - a person who hates or fears books

LT11

### Examples

an illiterate person

a nonreader

**characterization** - the description of the internal attributes of story characters

LT12

### Example

"In addition to never having seen a movie, she has never eaten in a restaurant, traveled more than five miles from home, received or sent a telegram, read anything except funny papers and the Bible, worn cosmetics, cursed, wished someone harm, told a lie on purpose, let a hungry dog go hungry."

—Capote, Truman. "A Christmas Memory" from **Breakfast at Tiffany's**. Random House, 1958.

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LT14

**cliché**

LT13

**character**

LT16

**climax**

LT15

**cliffhanger**

**cliché** ▪ a highly overused word or expression

### Examples

Cliché	Correction
beyond a shadow of a doubt	undoubtedly
bury the hatchet	make peace
grinning from ear to ear	smiling
in this day and age	today
one in a million	unique

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**character** ▪ a person or animal around whose actions a story revolves

### Examples

**main character**—the central story personage  
(*Wilber* in *Charlotte's Web* by E. B. White)  
**secondary character**—an essential supporting personage  
(*Charlotte* in *Charlotte's Web* by E. B. White)

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**cliffhanger** ▪ a device of suspense that leaves the reader wanting to read on

### Example

"Lester screamed a shattering scream at that instant, and Momma rushed past me, nearly knocking me down. I went after her. In less than a breath, it seemed, Momma had picked Lester up and tossed him back toward the front of the soddy. In the same instant, she shoved me away. But not before I saw."

—Conrad, Pam. *Prairie Songs*. HarperCollins, 1985.

**climax** ▪ the turning point of the plot or story action, usually characterized by great intensity

### Example

"So what you going to do?" I ask. "Shoot me?"

Travers is so surprised his jaw drops. But I'm cooking now. Nothing can stop me. Braver than I ever been in my life.

"Going to shoot me like that dog I found up here six months back with a bullet in his head?"

Travers stares some more.

"I know whose bullet that was, Judd, and I told Dad, and if folks find me up here with a bullet in me, Dad'll know whose bullet that is, too."

—Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds. *Shiloh*. Atheneum, 1991.



LT18

**conflict**

LT17

**clipped words**

LT20

**cyclical story**

LT19

**connotation**

**clipped words** - words that have been shortened through common usage

### Examples

#### Clipped Word

ad  
mum  
pen  
sub  
vet

#### Whole Word

advertisement  
chrysanthemum  
penitentiary  
substitute teacher  
veteran or veterinarian

LT17

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**conflict** - the primary battle or problem faced by the protagonist

### Examples

(**internal**—the struggle within a character)

In **Hatchet** by Gary Paulsen, Brian Robeson must deal with his feelings about his parents' impending divorce.

(**external**—the character's struggle with an outside force)

In **Hatchet** by Gary Paulsen, Brian Robeson must survive alone in the Canadian wilderness.

LT18

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**connotation** - a word's suggested variation or shade of meaning

### Examples

#### Positive

assertive  
deceased  
diplomatic  
mentally ill  
pleasingly plump  
unattractive

#### Negative

bossy; domineering  
dead  
two-faced  
crazy; loony  
morbidly obese  
ugly

LT19

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**cyclical story** - a story that ends where it began

### Examples

**The Tortilla Factory** ("La Tortillería") by Gary Paulsen tells about the hands that plant the corn that eventually becomes the tortilla that feeds the hand that planted the corn.

Louise Bradshaw in **Jacob Have I Loved** by Katherine Paterson grows up believing that her parents show partiality to her twin sister Caroline because Caroline almost died as a baby. At the end of the story, Louise, now a midwife, delivers twins and devotes her attention to the sick one, and through the experience comes to terms with her jealousy.

LT20

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LT22

**dialect**

LT21

**denotation**

LT24

**epithet**

LT23

**dialogue**

**denotation** ▪ the dictionary meaning of a word

LT21

**Example**

con-serv-a-tive **adj.** 1 wanting to keep things as they are and being against change and reform [My mother is a very **conservative** person.] 2 cautious or safe; not risky [a **conservative** taste in music; a **conservative** estimate of costs]  
**n.** a conservative person

—**Webster's New World Dictionary for Young Adults.**  
Simon & Schuster Inc., 1992.

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**dialect** ▪ a distinctive form of a language spoken by members of an identifiable regional, national, or social group

LT22

**Examples**

"Two days he be gone, and he come back and make a storm around the place so we all know John he made it. He be gone."

—Paulsen, Gary. **Nightjohn.** Delacorte, 1993.

"... It ain't fittin' to be frolicking when our men from right here on the Creek are dyin' in a war and all. My son darsn't disobey me again to make a fool of hisself. Do you mind what I say?"

—Houston, Gloria. **Littlejim.** Philomel, 1990.

**dialogue** ▪ the exact words spoken by story characters; conversation

LT23

**Example**

"Miss Gomez . . ."

"Yes, Franklin."

"Miss Gomez, my parents aren't here."

"I beg your pardon?"

"My father's working. My mother . . . went out."

"Franklin, you told me they'd be here. I think you said they would be charmed to see me."

"I lied."

—Avi. **Who Was That Masked Man, Anyway?** Orchard, 1992.

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**epithet** ▪ a word or phrase used to capture a person's most outstanding characteristic

LT24

**Examples**

Abraham Lincoln the Great Emancipator

Catherine, Called Birdy

Ethelred the Unready

Jesus the Messiah

Peter the Great

LT26

**euphemism**

LT25

**eponym**

LT28

**falling action**

LT27

**excerpt**

**eponym** ▪ a word whose origin is a person's name

**euphemism** ▪ verbiage that puts a positive, respectful slant on a negative subject

### Examples

Eponym	Name
decibel	Alexander Graham Bell
guillotine	Joseph Guillotin
pasteurize	Louis Pasteur
platonic	Plato
sideburns	Ambrose Burnside
teddy bear	Teddy Roosevelt

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LT25

### Examples

Euphemism	Blunt Truth
"frugal" or "thrifty"	"cheapskate"
"has a great personality"	"is ugly to the bone"
"has a healthy appetite"	"eats like a pig"
"is between jobs"	"is a lazy bum"

**excerpt** ▪ a selection excised from an original piece and used in an alternate setting

**falling action** ▪ the plot events immediately following the climax that lead to the resolution; dénouement

### Examples

A chapter from **The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe** is reprinted in a basal reader.  
A verse from the Christmas carol "I Wonder as I Wander" is used within the narrative of the novel **Jacob Have I Loved** by Katherine Paterson.  
A passage from the short story "A Christmas Memory" is published in a literature anthology for young readers.

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LT27

### Example

"We're almost there, Gabriel," he whispered, feeling quite certain without knowing why. "I remember this place, Gabe." And it was true. But it was not a grasping of a thin and burdensome recollection; this was different. This was something that he could keep. It was a memory of his own.

—Lowry, Lois. **The Giver**. Houghton Mifflin, 1993.

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LT28

LT30

**flashback**

LT29

**figurative  
language**

LT32

**genre**

LT31

**foreshadowing**

53

37

54

**figurative language** ▪ creative language or figures of speech used in poetry and prose

LT29

### Examples

hyperbole

idiom

metaphor

personification

simile

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**flashback** ▪ recalling previous events at a latter point within a story; analepsis

LT30

### Example

As I caressed the smooth surfaces, my mind drifted back through the years, back to my boyhood days. How wonderful the memories were. Piece by piece the story unfolded.

—Rawls, Wilson. **Where the Red Fern Grows**. Doubleday, 1961.

**foreshadowing** ▪ literary clues that allude to future story events

LT31

### Example

There are two pictures of Emmeline Berryman I have frozen in my memory for all eternity, and this was the first. She was dressed in the most magnificent violet dress I could ever remember seeing, and across her lap lay a sparkling pink parasol flounced with lace and eyelet.

But she wasn't sitting up, ready and amused by our wide-eyed, droop-jawed welcoming party. She was slumped in a faint against the doctor, and her face was gray, like winter prairie grass before a storm.

—Conrad, Pam. **Prairie Songs**. HarperCollins, 1985.

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LT32

**genre** ▪ traditionally the five major classifications of literature—drama, poetry, fiction, nonfiction, and essay; commonly referred to as any particular type of published writing characterized by form or content

### Examples

biography

classic

fiction

nonfiction

romance

western



LT34

**hyperbole**

LT33

**hero or heroine**

LT36

**imagery**

LT35

**idiom**

57

39

58

**hero** or **heroine** ▪ a story character who exhibits remarkable strength or courage LT33

### Examples

Brian Robeson from **Hatchet** by Gary Paulsen

Hercules

Joan of Arc

Karana from **Island of the Blue Dolphins** by Scott O'Dell

Kit Tyler from **The Witch of Blackbird Pond** by Elizabeth George Speare

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**hyperbole** ▪ the use of obvious excessive exaggeration LT34

### Examples

The amount of medals Franklin D. Roosevelt had either hung around my neck or pinned to my front would have supplied the army with enough metal for a tank.

Just the look on the Captain's face ripped my heart right out of my chest.

—Paterson, Katherine. **Jacob Have I Loved**. HarperCollins, 1980.

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**idiom** ▪ a common saying unique to a group of people that has a meaning apart from its literal translation; idiomatic expression LT35

### Examples

I knew Mama meant what she said. This broke my heart.

Far down in the right-hand corner, I found an ad that took my breath away.

The way my grandfather stared at me made me uneasy. I was on needles and pins.

—Rawls, Wilson. **Where the Red Fern Grows**. Doubleday, 1961.

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**imagery** ▪ descriptive language that evokes mental impressions of the five senses LT36

### Example

The black stove, stoked with coal and firewood, glows like a lighted pumpkin. Eggbeaters whirl, spoons spin round in bowls of butter and sugar, vanilla sweetens the air, ginger spices it; melting, nose-tingling odors saturate the kitchen, suffuse the house, drift out to the world on puffs of chimney smoke.

—Capote, Truman. "A Christmas Memory" from **Breakfast at Tiffany's**. Random House, 1958.

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LT38

**irony**

LT37

**introduction**

LT40

**kenning**

LT39

**jargon**

**introduction** - the beginning of a plot sequence that acquaints the reader with characters and setting

LT37

### Example

Maycomb was an old town, but it was a tired old town when I first knew it. . . . Somehow, it was hotter then: a black dog suffered on a summer's day; bony mules hitched to Hoover carts flicked flies in the sweltering shade of the live oaks on the square. Men's stiff collars wilted by nine in the morning. Ladies bathed before noon, after their three-o'clock naps, and by nightfall were like soft teacakes with frostings of sweat and sweet talcum. . . .

We lived on the main residential street in town—Atticus, Jem and I, plus Calpurnia our cook. Jem and I found our father satisfactory: he played with us, read to us, and treated us with courteous detachment.

—Lee, Harper. **To Kill a Mockingbird**. Lippincott, 1960.

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**irony** - the contrast between the way something appears to be and what it actually is

LT38

### Example

There was a funeral service for her in the church. . . . Neither she nor the Captain had been to church for as long as anyone could remember, but the preacher in those days was young and earnest and gave her what was warmly regarded as a "right purty service."

—Paterson, Katherine. **Jacob Have I Loved**. HarperCollins, 1980.

**jargon** - conversational language unique to a group, trade, or profession

LT39

### Examples

**baseball**—southpaw, duster, green fly, hot corner, Sir Charles

**cowboy**—tarantula juice, bite the dust, tenderfoot, rubberneck

**diner**—sunnyside up, on the side, surf and turf

**hip-hop**—chill, dis, homeboy, def, fly

**teacher**—helicopter parent, marble palace, deep sneakers, SSR

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**kenning** - a brief metaphor or stock phrase used in place of a more familiar term

LT40

### Examples

Kenning	Term
bone house	body
firewater	whiskey
sky candle	sun

LT42

**literary license**

LT41

**linear story**

LT44

**malapropism**

LT43

**literature**

65

43

66

**linear story** - a story that begins at one point and ends at a distant point

LT41

### Examples

In **Pilgrim's Progress** by John Bunyan, the pilgrim named Christian embarks upon a treacherous journey. He encounters many physical and spiritual obstacles along the way, but through determination he makes it to the Celestial City.

At the beginning of **Justin and the Best Biscuits in the World** by Mildred Pitts Walter, Justin is an immature, lazy young man. After spending time at his grandfather's ranch, Justin learns the importance of responsibility.

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**literary license** - the author's right to break the rules of standard spelling, grammar, and punctuation for the sake of creativity

LT42

### Example

Gary Paulsen's use of fragmented sentences to create a contemplative effect:

But there was one dog who taught me the most.

Just one dog.

Storm.

First dog.

—Paulsen, Gary. **Woodsong**. Viking, 1990.

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**literature** - creative writing of universally recognized artistic value

LT43

### Examples

classic novel

essay

play

poem

short story

**malapropism** - the misuse of words characterized by confusion with similar terms

LT44

### Example

"Maybe she's got some mysterious illness and doesn't want to be a burden to him."

"Who?"

"Mr. Rice's finance." I had picked up the word, but not the pronunciation from my reading. It was not in the spoken vocabulary of most islanders.

"His what?"

"The woman he's engaged to marry, stupid."

—Paterson, Katherine. **Jacob Have I Loved**. HarperCollins, 1980.

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LT46

**metaphor**

LT45

**meiosis**

LT48

**metonymy**

LT47

**meter**

**meiosis** ▪ a form of understatement whereby something is referred to in less-than-accurate terms

LT45

### Examples

Mercutio from **Romeo and Juliet** refers to his mortal wound as a "scratch."

Vincent van Gogh was a part-time doodler.

Whitney Houston can carry a tune.

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**metaphor** ▪ a comparison between two distinct objects that does not use the words **like** or **as**

LT46

### Examples

The cows watched, their eyes sad in their dinner-plate faces. And I slept, dreaming a perfect dream. The fields had turned to a sea that gleamed like sun on glass. And Sarah was happy.

—MacLachlan, Patricia. **Sarah, Plain and Tall**. HarperCollins, 1985.

Gordy's face turned white. I was standing so close to him I could see the constellations of freckles on his face, the tiny network of blue veins at his temples, the purple scar over his eyebrow, the yellowing bruises on his face.

—Hahn, Mary Downing. **Stepping on the Cracks**. Clarion, 1991.

**meter** ▪ a systematic pattern and measure of rhythm used in poetry

LT47

### Examples

#### Basic Metrical Feet and Symbols

iamb       » /

trochee    / »

dactyl     / » »

anapest    » » /

spondee    / /

(/ = stressed syllable; » = unstressed syllable)

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**metonymy** ▪ replacing the name of one thing with the name of another closely associated thing

LT48

### Examples

Metonym	Term
the bottle	alcohol
the Oval Office	the President
the pen	writing
the press	journalism
the sword	warfare



LT50

**moral**

LT49

**mood**

LT52

**narrative**

LT51

**motivation**

**mood** ▪ the general feeling evoked in a reader through the author's use of words

LT49

### Example

With that he raised himself to one elbow and began to drag himself down the road. The boys and I, candy canes in hand, stood motionless. We watched Mr. John Wallace to see if he would raise the shotgun again. Jeremy, the candy cane in his pocket, watched too. We all waited for the second click of the shotgun. But only the cries of Mr. Tom Bee as he inched his way along the road ripped the silence. "John! John! John!" he cried over and over again. "Ya hear me, John? Till the judgment day! John! John! JOHN!"

There was no other sound.

—Taylor, Mildred D. **The Friendship**. Dial, 1987.

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**moral** ▪ a lesson or principle intentionally communicated through the form of a story

LT50

### Examples

"Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

"Misery loves company."

"Slow and steady wins the race."

"You are judged by the company you keep."

"You can't please everybody."

—Aesop's Fables

**motivation** ▪ a story character's reason for exhibiting a particular behavior

LT51

### Example

"... Son, didn't you know what her fits were?"

Jem shook his head.

"Mrs. Dubose was a morphine addict," said Atticus. "... She said she was going to leave this world beholden to nothing and nobody. Jem, when you're sick as she was, it's all right to take anything to make it easier, but it wasn't all right for her. She said she meant to break herself of it before she died, and that's what she did."

—Lee, Harper. **To Kill a Mockingbird**. Lippincott, 1960.

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**narrative** ▪ any form of writing that tells a story

LT52

### Examples

anecdote

epic

novel

novella

short story

LT54

onomatopoeia

LT53

narrator

LT56

pace

LT55

οξύμωρον

**narrator** - the person telling the story, usually a character or the author

LT53

### Examples

#### Title/Genre

#### Narrator

**To Kill a Mockingbird**

Scout Finch (character)

**Lincoln: A Photobiography**

Russell Freedman (author)

**The Story of My Life**

Helen Keller (author/subject)

**Charlotte's Web**

E. B. White (author)

**The True Story of the Three**

the wolf (character)

#### Little Pigs

wordless picture book

the illustrator/the reader

autobiography

the subject (author)

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**onomatopoeia** - the use of words that imitate sounds

LT54

### Examples

A noise louder than thunder came through the door. Ker-chug. Ker-chug. Wheep, came the sound. Ker-chug. Ker-chug. Wheep.

—Houston, Gloria. **Littlejim**. Philomel, 1990.

Watermelon seed number three leaves Ben's garage with a thunderous zazonk. Zing, and it's gone.

—Birdseye, Tom. **I'm Going to Be Famous**. Holiday House, 1986.

**oxymoron** - the combined use of terms that seem to be contradictory

LT55

### Examples

jumbo shrimp

sweet sorrow

original copy

random pattern

holy war

awfully nice

justifiable homicide

freezer burn

death benefits

black light

unbiased opinion

urban cowboy

**pace** - the rate at which a story moves along, defined by the tension between descriptive passages and action sequence

LT56

### Examples

rapid

rollercoaster

slow

steady

stop and go

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LT58

**paradox**

LT57

**palindrome**

LT60

**personification**

LT59

**parody**

**palindrome** - a word or phrase that reads the same both forward and backward

LT57

### Examples

A man, a plan, a canal, Panama.

Madam, I'm Adam.

Tuna roll or a nut?

Was it Eliot's toilet I saw?

Wow!

—Smith, Dona. **Wo! Nemo, Toss a Lasso to Me**

**Now!** Scholastic, 1993.

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**paradox** - a statement or situation whereby two opposing conditions exist simultaneously

LT58

### Example

After the Nazis began to use police dogs to sniff out hidden passengers on the fishing boats, Swedish scientists worked swiftly to prevent such detection. They created a powerful powder composed of dried rabbit's blood and cocaine; the blood attracted the dogs, and when they sniffed at it, the cocaine numbed their noses and destroyed, temporarily, their sense of smell. Almost every boat captain used such a permeated handkerchief, and many lives were saved by the device.

—Lowry, Lois. **Number the Stars**. Houghton Mifflin, 1989.

**parody** - the imitation of an author's style or literary work, most commonly for amusement

LT59

### Examples

Parody Titles:

**Gooflumps: Stay Out of the Bathroom** by R. U. Slime

**Politically Correct Bedtime Stories** by James Finn Garner

**The Night Before Thanksgiving** by Dav Pilkey

**The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales**  
by Jon Scieszka and Lane Smith

**The Three Little Wolves and the Big Bad Wolf**  
by Eugene Trivizas

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**personification** - attributing human characteristics to nonhuman objects

LT60

### Example

"For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap [their] hands." Isaiah 55:12

—**The Holy Bible (KJV)**

The lightning lit up everything else. Only the mouth of the cave stayed dark, black as death itself.

—Wallace, Bill. **Trapped in Death Cave**. Holiday House, 1984.

LT62

**plot**

LT61

**plagiarism**

LT64

**poetic license**

LT63

**poetic justice**

**plagiarism** ▪ passing off the writings of another person as one's own

### Examples

"The Gettysburg Address" by R. Howard Blount, Jr.

Copying a report verbatim from an encyclopedia

Not quoting sources

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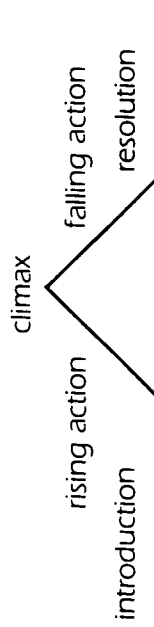
LT61

**plot** ▪ the sequence of story events

### Examples

beginning, middle, end

introduction, rising action, climax, falling action, resolution



**poetic justice** ▪ a deserved happy ending for heroes and a bad fate for villains

### Examples

At the end of **Trapped in Death Cave** by Bill Wallace, greedy Odie Ralston falls into a rattlesnake pit and is found dead with fifty fang marks on his body.

At the end of **Shiloh** by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor, the love and care that Marty shows Shiloh eventually make the dog become his.

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LT63

**poetic license** ▪ the poet's freedom to depart from conventional poetic devices

### Examples

e. e. Cummings is known for writing almost exclusively in lowercase letters as well as using unconventional punctuation.

Some poets use irregular shortened forms of words such as "o'er" for "over," "tane" for "taken," or "heav'n" for "heaven" for the sake of rhythm or rhyme.

A poet may write a line in reverse order such as "To the sea he went," rather than "He went to the sea" for the sake of rhythm or rhyme.

Writers of free verse invoke their right to create their own rules of writing. When young poets have learned the rules of grammar, punctuation, and style, they may then choose to sacrifice the rules of writing in order to enhance creativity.

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LT64



LT66

**portmanteau  
words**

LT65

**point of view**

LT68

**pun**

LT67

**protagonist**

**point of view** - the perspective from which a story is told

**portmanteau words** - words with dual meanings that have been blended through common usage

### Examples

**first person**—the story told from the author's or one character's perspective, characterized by use of the pronouns **I, me, my, we, us, and our**

**third person omniscient**—the narrator tells the story from the perspective of more than one character

**third person limited**—the narrator tells the story from one character's perspective

### Portmanteau Words

bleep

brunch

fortnight

goodbye

motel

### Original Words

blankout + beep

breakfast + lunch

fourteen + nights

God + be (with) + ye

motor + hotel

**protagonist** - the main character in a story; the hero or heroine

**pun** - a play on words involving two similar-sounding words that have distinctive meanings

### Examples

Brian Robeson in **Hatchet** by Gary Paulsen

Louise Bradshaw in **Jacob Have I Loved** by Katherine Paterson

Billy Colman in **Where the Red Fern Grows** by Wilson Rawls

Lucas Cott in **Class Clown** by Johanna Hurwitz

Wilbur in **Charlotte's Web** by E. B. White

"Bee it ever so bumble, there's no place like comb."

"Two maggots were fighting in dead Ernest."

"Eat drink and be merry for tomorrow you may diet."

—Gilbreth, Frank B. and Ernestine G. Carey. **Cheaper by the Dozen**. Crowell, 1948, 1963.

The course was listed in the FBI refresher catalog as: SLIME AND PUNISHMENT 3A

A one-day intensive seminar on nipping insect no-goodskies in the bug, presented by one of the nation's foremost slime fighters.

—Hass, E. A. **Incognito Mosquito Flies Again**. Random House, 1985.

LT70

**quote or  
quotation**

LT69

**purpose**

LT72

**repetition**

LT71

**redundancy**

93

57

94

**purpose** ▪ the author's reason for writing a literary piece

LT69

### Examples

to describe  
to entertain  
to inform  
to persuade

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**quote** or **quotation** ▪ a reference to the exact words spoken by another well-known person or used in a recognized literary work

LT70

### Examples

"He who would be no slave, must consent to have no slave. Those who deny freedom to others, deserve it not for themselves; and, under a just God, cannot long retain it." —From a letter to H. L. Pierce and others, April 6, 1859.  
—Freedman, Russell. **Lincoln: A Photobiography**. Clarion, 1987.

"It is nonviolence only when we love those that hate us," Gandhi had written before his death.

—Fisher, Leonard Everett. **Gandhi**. Atheneum, 1995.

**redundancy** ▪ the unnecessary sequential use of two or more words with identical or similar meanings; overblown phrasing

LT71

### Example

"Did Mama sing every day?" asked Caleb. "Every-single-day?" He sat close to the fire, his chin in his hand. It was dusk, and the dogs lay beside him on the warm hearthstones.

"Every-single-day," I told him for the second time this week. For the twentieth time this month. The hundredth time this year? And the past few years?

—MacLachlan, Patricia. **Sarah, Plain and Tall**. HarperCollins, 1985.

### Other Examples

pain and suffering  
in any way, shape, or form  
cool, calm, and collected  
the exact same thing

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**repetition** ▪ the effective use of recurrent words, phrases, incidents, themes, images, or symbols in a literary piece

LT72

### Examples

"Tomorrow, and tomorrow, and tomorrow,  
Creeps in this petty pace from day to day"  
—Shakespeare, William. **Macbeth**.

Were the whole world good as you—not an atom better—

Were it just as pure and true,  
Just as pure and true as you;  
Just as strong in faith and works;  
Just as free from crafty quirks;  
All extortion, all deceit;

Schemes its neighbors to defeat;  
Schemes its neighbors to defraud;  
Schemes some culprit to applaud—  
Would this world be better?

—Anonymous, excerpt from "The Question"

85

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LT74

**rhyme**

LT73

**resolution**

LT76

**rhythm**

LT75

**rhyme scheme**

**resolution** - the final plot component immediately following the falling action; the outcome of a story

LT73

**Example**

And there came a day when it was done.

"Done for now," Mick said. "It won't really be done until the trees are full grown—forty or fifty years—and then still won't be done until there are no more names or trees to put in. But done for now."

We were standing—Tru, Mick, Python, and I were standing by the end of the monument area. It was done and in some way looked like it had always been there.

—Paulsen, Gary. **The Monument**. Delacorte, 1991.

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**rhyme** - in poetry the repetitive use of words or ending syllables that share the same sound

LT74

**Examples**

sand/band	syndicate/vindicate
labor/neighbor	show/know
curious/furious	ocean/motion
walk/talk	conformity/enormity
fiddler/riddler	

**rhyme scheme** - a standard rhyming pattern

LT75

**Examples**

Patterns:

couplet	aabbcc
limerick	aabba
quatrain	abab abcb abba

**rhythm** - a poetic beat using light and heavy stress patterns; the harmonious pattern of syllables in prose

LT76

**Examples**

iambic pentameter  
iambic tetrameter  
anapestic trimeter  
dactylic tetrameter  
trochaic tetrameter

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LT78

**satire**

LT77

**rising action**

LT80

**sequence of  
events**

LT79

**scene**

61

101

102

**rising action** ▪ the plot events that lead to the climax; complication LT77

**Example**

1. Fern saves Wilbur's life.
2. Wilbur is sold to the Zuckermans.
3. Wilbur gets lonely at his new home.
4. Wilbur meets Charlotte and they become friends.
5. Wilbur learns he is set to be butchered.
6. Charlotte begins to write complimentary words about Wilbur in her web.

—based on **Charlotte's Web** by E. B. White

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**satire** ▪ humorous mockery of the folly, vice, or stupidity of deserving individuals or institutions in hope of effecting reform LT78

**Examples**

**Aesop's Fables**

**Alice in Wonderland** by Lewis Carroll

**Animal Farm** by George Orwell

**Brave New World** by Aldous Huxley

**Gulliver's Travels** by Jonathan Swift

**Vanity Fair** by William Makepeace Thackeray

**scene** ▪ in drama, the subdivision of a play or an act; one event in a story LT79

**Examples**

The part in Shakespeare's **Hamlet** where Hamlet gives his famous monologue

The part in William Gibson's **The Miracle Worker** where Helen Keller first understands fingerspelling

The part in E. B. White's **Charlotte's Web** where Charlotte first writes a word in her web

The part in Katherine Paterson's **Jacob Have I Loved** where Louise comes to terms with her sibling rivalry

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**sequence of events** ▪ the standard plot flow—introduction, rising action, climax, falling action, resolution LT80

**Examples**

1. At age 14, Louise Bradshaw has always felt her parents gave preferential treatment to her twin Caroline.

2. Caroline eventually enrolls at Juilliard, then marries Louise's best friend, Call Purnell.

3. Embittered, Louise leaves home to find her own way.

4. Louise becomes a midwife, marries, and becomes a mother.

5. When she delivers a set of twins, she suddenly comes to terms with her bitterness.

—based on **Jacob Have I Loved** by Katherine Paterson

29



LJ82

**simile**

LJ81

**setting**

LJ84

**stanza**

LJ83

**slang**

**setting** ▪ the time and place in which a story takes place LT81

**Examples**

Time	Place	Title and Author
1906	Florida Everglades	<b>Lostman's River</b> by Cynthia DeFelice
The Future	The Community	<b>The Giver</b> by Lois Lowry
Modern Day	Seagrove, Oregon	<b>I'm Going to Be Famous</b> by Tom Birdseye
World War II	The Caribbean Sea	<b>The Cay</b> by Theodore Taylor
Sept. 12, 1290– Sept. 23, 1291	Stonebridge Manor, England	<b>Catherine, Called Birdy</b> by Karen Cushman

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**simile** ▪ a comparison between two distinct objects, using the words **like** or **as** LT82

**Examples**

The prairie was like a giant plate, stretching all the way to the sky at the edges.

—Conrad, Pam. **Prairie Songs**. HarperCollins, 1985.

Mrs. Underwood looked to be made of dried-out apples. She was small and tight and dry, just like her house, but with a shine that attracted me. She shook my hand, and her thin cool fingers felt like twigs that could be snapped in a minute.

—Rylant, Cynthia. **Missing May**. Orchard, 1992.

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**slang** ▪ nonstandard colorful sayings or terms; irreverent street language LT83

**Example**

Thomas says the king and the people of his court have chosen each his own special profanity so that they don't have to say "Deus!" or "Corpus bones!" or "Benedicite!" as we ordinary folk do. The king says "God's breath!" His son says "God's teeth!" Thomas says "God's feet!" I, not being ordinary shall choose one also. I will try one on each day and see what fits me best. Today it is: God's face!

—Cushman, Karen. **Catherine, Called Birdy**. Clarion, 1994.

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**stanza** ▪ a division within a poem, consisting of a number of related lines LT84

**Example**

"Shenandoah"

Oh, Shenandoah, I long to hear you,  
And see your rolling river,  
Oh, Shenandoah, I long to hear you,  
Away, I'm bound away, 'Cross the wide Missouri.

Tis sev'n long years since last I saw you,  
And heard your rolling river,  
'Tis sev'n long years since last I saw you,  
Away, I'm bound away, 'Cross the wide Missouri.

When first I took a rambling notion  
To leave your rolling river,  
To sail across the briny ocean,  
Away, I'm bound away, 'Cross the wide Missouri.

—American River Shanty

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LT86

**subplot**

LT85

**style**

LT88

**suspense**

LT87

**surprise  
ending**

65

109

110

**style** ■ an author's unique way of writing—creative or recognizable uses of theme, diction, syntax, imagery, rhythm, or figurative language

### Examples

Gary Paulsen uses sentence fragments and one word sentences.

Truman Capote uses run-on sentences filled with series and clauses.

Pam Conrad uses setting-linked simile and metaphor.

Katherine Paterson uses obscure yet powerful words.

Gloria Houston infuses character dialogue with Appalachian dialect.

Paula Danziger writes humorously about the problems of adolescence.

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LT85

**subplot** ■ a minor related story within the dominant plot

### Example

The growth of Rocky as an artist and the developing relationship between Tru and Mick are minor stories within the greater plot of how Bolton, Kansas, gets a war memorial in **The Monument** by Gary Paulsen.

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LT86

**surprise ending** ■ an unexpected conclusion to a story, often marked by satisfaction or disappointment

### Example

Jim had not yet seen his beautiful present. She held it out to him eagerly upon her open palm. The dull, precious metal seemed to flash with a reflection of her bright and ardent spirit.

"Isn't it a dandy, Jim? I hunted all over town to find it. You'll have to look at the time a hundred times a day now. Give me your watch. I want to see how it looks on it."

Instead of obeying, Jim tumbled down on the couch and put his hands under the back of his head and smiled.

"Dell," said he, "let's put our Christmas presents away and keep 'em awhile. They're too nice to use just at present. I sold the watch to get the money to buy your combs. And now, suppose you put the chops on."

—Henry, O. **The Gift of the Magi.**

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LT87

**suspense** ■ the feelings of excitement, anxiety, and anticipation radiating from a story that motivate the reader to read on

### Example

He walked slowly up to his mother, one eye closed and the other focused down the barrel of the rifle, slowly, slowly, his bare feet sure and steady in the grass.

"Get in the wagon, Ma," he ordered.

"Paulie, you put that down." She was backing up, her arms held away from her sides.

"Into the wagon, Ma," he repeated.

"Paulie, your pa is gonna—"

A blast exploded at her feet, and the hem of her skirt tore from her and flapped on the ground.

—Conrad, Pam. **Prairie Songs.** HarperCollins, 1985.

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LT88

99

112

111

LT90

**synecdoche**

LT89

**symbolism**

LT92

**tone**

LT91

**theme**

**symbolism** • the use of images in literature that represent other entities or meanings

LT89

**Examples**

Symbol	Meaning
fire	passion
water	cleansing
roses	love
birds	freedom
sun	happiness
black	death
river	life
shadow	foreboding

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**synecdoche** • referring to a whole by one of its parts or a more comprehensive whole

LT90

**Examples**

calling a school principal "the administration"  
calling a singer "a voice"  
calling manual laborers "hands"  
calling police officers "the law"  
calling the Buccaneers "Tampa"

**theme** • the author's message or the main idea of a story

LT91

**Examples**

Theme	Title and Author
friendship	<b>Charlotte's Web</b> by E. B. White
art; war	<b>The Monument</b> by Gary Paulsen
survival	<b>Hatchet</b> by Gary Paulsen
restoration	<b>The Lost Sailor</b> by Pam Conrad
independence	<b>Lyddie</b> by Katherine Paterson

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**tone** • manner of expression revealing author's attitude toward subject matter or reader

LT92

**Examples**

distant  
formal  
humorous  
informal  
intimate  
serious

115

116

89

G2

**ABC poem**

G1

**adventure**

G4

**anecdote**

G3

**almanac**

**adventure** ▪ a literary work with elements of risk, action, and suspense

### Examples

**Bones on Black Spruce Mountain** by David Budbill

**Dead Man in Indian Creek** by Mary Downing Hahn

**Rescue Josh McGuire** by Ben Mikaelson

**The Cay** by Theodore Taylor

**Trapped in Death Cave** by Bill Wallace

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**ABC poem** ▪ unrhymed verse of up to 26 lines, each word beginning sequentially with the letters of the alphabet

### Example

"Food"

Apples	nuts, oranges, peelings
bubbly corn dishes	quiche
eating favorites	ripe strawberries, tacos
greedy helpings	unlimited vegetables
ices	weiners [sic]
juicy kumquat	xcellent, yummy zucchini
luscious melons	

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**almanac** ▪ a reference book published annually that contains updated statistics, lists, tables, and charts of information from many fields

### Examples

**Poor Richard's** \_\_\_\_\_ by Benjamin Franklin

**Statistical Abstract of the United States** published by U.S. Bureau of the Census

**The Information Please** \_\_\_\_\_ published by Houghton Mifflin

**The Old Farmer's** \_\_\_\_\_ published by Yankee Publishing

**World** \_\_\_\_\_ & **Book of Facts** published by Funk & Wagnalls

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**anecdote** ▪ a brief interesting or humorous story

### Example

A small child was drawing a picture and his teacher said, "That's an interesting picture. Tell me about it."

"It's a picture of God."

"But nobody knows what God looks like."

"They will when I get done."

—Canfield, Jack and Mark Victor Hansen. **Chicken Soup for the Soul**. Health Communications, Inc., 1993.

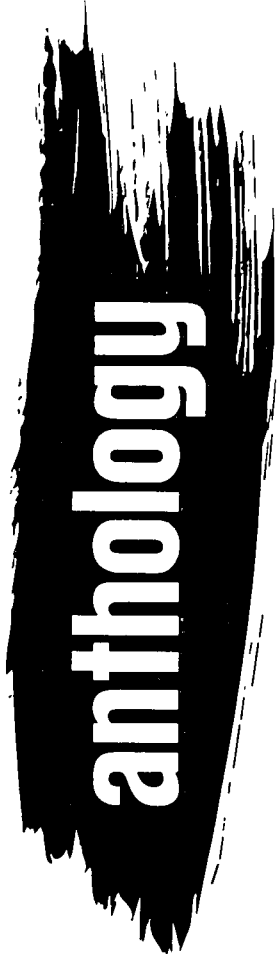
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G6



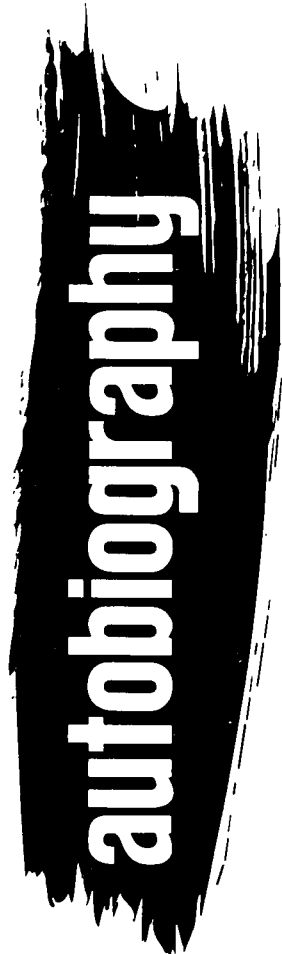
G5



G8



G7



121

122

**anthology** - a collection of literary pieces, such as poems, essays, short stories, or plays, contained in one volume

G5

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**Examples**

**Good Books, Good Times!** poems selected by Lee Bennett Hopkins

**Hey! Listen to This: Stories to Read Aloud** edited by Jim Trelease

**Spoon River** \_\_\_\_\_ by Edgar Lee Masters

**The Dream Keeper: And Other Poems** by Langston Hughes

**Where the Sidewalk Ends** by Shel Silverstein

**atlas** - a reference book of maps, geographic tables, and charts

G6

**Examples**

\_\_\_\_\_ of **Treasure Maps** published by Nelson

**Florida County Maps** published by C. J. Puetz

**Hammond** \_\_\_\_\_ of the **World**

**Mobil Road** \_\_\_\_\_ and **Trip Planning Guide** published by H.M. Gousha

**Rand McNally** \_\_\_\_\_ of the **United States**

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**autobiography** - the story of a person's life written by that person

G7

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**Examples**

**Coal Miner's Daughter** by Loretta Lynn with George Vecsey

**How I Came to Be a Writer** by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor

**Night** by Elie Wiesel

**Rosa Parks: My Story** by Rosa Parks

**The Story of My Life** by Helen Keller

**ballad** - a narrative poem or folk song with simple stanzas and a recurring refrain

G8

**Examples**

**Gunga Din** by Rudyard Kipling

**Hero** by Mariah Carey and Walter Afanasieff

**John Brown's Body** by Stephen Vincent Benét

**Lord Randall My Son** by Anonymous

**Rime of the Ancient Mariner** by Samuel Taylor Coleridge

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G10

**cento**

G9

**biography**

G12

**cinquain**

G11

**chapbook**

**biography** ▪ the story of a person's life G9

### Examples

**Frances Hodgson Burnett: Beyond the Secret Garden** by Jean Shirley and Angelica Shirley Carpenter

**Look Homeward: A Life of Thomas Wolfe** by David Herbert Donald

**Peter the Great: His Life and World** by Robert K. Massie

**Prairie Visions: The Life and Times of Solomon Butcher** by Pam Conrad

**The Double Life of Pocahontas** by Jean Fritz

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**cento** ▪ a rhymed **aabbcc** "patchwork" poem consisting of lines borrowed from various existing poems G10

### Examples

I saw a ship a-sailing, **a** (Mother Goose)

Blue sky prevailing. **a** (William Wordsworth)

Sweet day, so cool, so calm, so bright **b** (George Herbert)

Welcome all wonders in one sight. **b** (Richard Crashaw)

On this green bank, by thee, soft stream, **c** (Ralph Waldo Emerson)

Was it a vision—or a waking dream? **c** (John Keats)

—Lipson, Greta and Jane Romatowski. **Calliope**. Good Apple, 1981.

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**chapbook** ▪ a cheaply produced pamphlet sold by peddlers from the sixteenth to nineteenth centuries; a small, often self-published, paperback book of poetry G11

### Examples

**Bevis of Hampton**

**Guy of Warwick**

**John Gilpin**

**Robinson Crusoe**

**Pieces of Light**

**cinquain** ▪ an unrhymed 5-line poem dividing 22 syllables into a 2-4-6-8-2 pattern G12

### Example

Rain

Heavy, Awesome

Drenching, soaking, penetrating

Renewing the earth's firmament

Soil-soaker

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G14

**clerihew**

G13

**classic**

G16

**comic strip**

G15

**comedy**

**classic** ▪ a definitive literary work that has been widely read and recognized for many years

**clerihew** ▪ a humorous 4-line rhymed poem based on a person's name

### Examples

**Hans Brinker or the Silver Skates** by Mary Dodge

**Heidi** by Johanna Spyri

**Little Women** by Louisa May Alcott

**Moby Dick** by Herman Melville

**Treasure Island** by Robert Louis Stevenson

**White Fang** by Jack London

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### Examples

Geoffrey Chaucer

Could hardly have been coarser;

But this never harmed the sales

Of his "Canterbury Tales."

—Baldick, Chris. **The Concise Oxford Dictionary of Literary**

**Terms.** Oxford, 1990.

Sir Humphrey Davy

Abominated gravy.

He lived in the odium

Of having discovered sodium.

—Bentley, Edmund Clerihew, as found in **The Poetry Dictionary** by John Philip Drury. Story Press, 1995.

**comedy** ▪ a humorous play or literary work

G15

### Examples

**A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court** by Mark Twain

**A Midsummer Night's Dream** by William Shakespeare

**Funny Girl** by Isobel Lennart

**The Importance of Being Earnest** by Oscar Wilde

**The Odd Couple** by Neil Simon

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**comic strip** ▪ a humorous vignette illustrated with multipaneled scenes, caricatures, and ballooned dialogue

G16

### Examples

**Beetle Bailey** by Mort Walker

**Blondie** by Chic Young

**Garfield** by Jim Davis

**Mickey Mouse** by Walt Disney

**Peanuts** by Charles Schulz

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G18

**concrete  
poem**

G17

**companion  
title**

G20

**couplet**

133

77

G19

**contemporary  
fiction**

134

**companion title** - a literary piece that stands alone but is related in character or setting to another work

G17

**Examples**

The Borrowers  
The Borrowers Afield  
The Borrowers Afloat  
The Borrowers Aloft  
The Borrowers Avenged  
—All by Mary Norton

Little House on the Prairie  
Little House in the Big Woods  
By the Shores of Silver Lake  
Farmer Boy  
These Happy Golden Years  
—All by Laura Ingalls Wilder

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**concrete poem** - verse arranged visually or shaped to represent its theme

**Example**

I  
wish  
everyone  
could see my  
Christmas tree  
and have the fun  
and feel the childish  
glee that comes to me when  
decorating it for all my friends  
to see.

—Strouf, Judie. **The Literature Teacher's Book of Lists**,  
The Center for Applied Research in Education, 1993. Used by  
permission of Prentice Hall/Career & Personal Development.

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**contemporary fiction** - a literary work with  
no distinguishable regional or periodic attachments that  
technically could occur anywhere in modern times

G19

**Examples**

A Taste of Blackberries by Doris Buchanan Smith  
On My Honor by Marion Dane Bauer  
The Best Christmas Pageant Ever by Barbara Robinson  
The Dead Man in Indian Creek by Mary Downing Hahn  
The Summer of the Swans by Betsy Byars

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**couplet** - a 2-lined rhyming stanza or poem

G20

**Example**

"Trees"  
I think that I shall never see  
A poem lovely as a tree.  
A tree whose hungry mouth is prest  
Against the earth's sweet flowing breast;  
A tree that looks at God all day,  
And lifts her leafy arms to pray;  
A tree that may in Summer wear  
A nest of robins in her hair;  
Upon whose bosom snow has lain;  
Who intimately lives with rain.  
Poems are made by fools like me,  
But only God can make a tree.

—Kilmer, Joyce. **Trees and Other Poems**. George H. Doran Co., 1914.



G22

**diary**

G21

**diamante**

G24

**drama**

G23

**dictionary**

**diamante** ▪ a form of unrhymed poetry that physically resembles a diamond; related to cinquain

G21

**Example**

Love  
Warm, wonderful  
Embracing, hugging, laughing  
Parents, relatives, — Strangers, enemies  
Neglected, frightened, trembling,  
Cold, bitter,  
Hate

—From **Calliope** by Greta Barclay Lipson, Ed.D. and Jane A. Romatowski, Ed.D. © 1981 by Good Apple, an imprint of Modern Curriculum, Simon & Schuster Elementary. Used by permission.

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**diary** ▪ a daily written record of one's personal experiences

G22

**Examples**

**Anne Frank: The \_\_\_\_\_ of a Young Girl**  
**Catherine, Called Birdy** by Karen Cushman  
**Go Ask Alice** by Anonymous  
**The \_\_\_\_\_ of Latoya Hunter: My First Year in Junior High**  
**Z for Zachariah** by Robert C. O'Brien

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**dictionary** ▪ a reference book used for finding meanings, pronunciations, and other information related to words

G23

**Examples**

**Cassell's Spanish** \_\_\_\_\_ published by Funk and Wagnalls  
\_\_\_\_\_ of **Scientific and Technical Terms** published by McGraw-Hill  
**Partridge's Concise** \_\_\_\_\_ of **Slang and Unconventional English** published by Macmillan  
**The American Heritage** \_\_\_\_\_ published by Houghton Mifflin  
**Webster's New World** \_\_\_\_\_ published by Prentice Hall

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**drama** ▪ a literary work designed for public performance by actors

G24

**Examples**

**Hamlet** by William Shakespeare  
**Our Town** by Thornton Wilder  
**Raisin in the Sun** by Lorraine Hansberry  
**The Effect of Gamma Rays on Man-in-the-Moon Marigolds** by Paul Zindel  
**The Miracle Worker** by William Gibson

© 1997 Good Apple

G26

**elegy**

G25

**dramatic  
poem**

G28

**epic**

G27

**encyclopedia**

**dramatic poem** ▪ a narrative play written in verse form, involving two or more voices

**Examples**

"Canterbury Tales" by Geoffrey Chaucer

Choruses from "The Rock" by T. S. Eliot

"Sordello" by Robert Browning

"The Death of the Hired Man" by Robert Frost

"Ulysses" by Alfred, Lord Tennyson

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G25

**elegy** ▪ a poem lamenting a death

**Examples**

"In Memoriam A.H.H." by Alfred, Lord Tennyson

"Oh Captain, My Captain" by Walt Whitman

"Thanatopsis" by William Cullen Bryant

"Annabel Lee" by Edgar Allan Poe

"I Have a Rendezvous With Death" by Alan Seeger

© 1997 Good Apple

G26

**encyclopedia** ▪ a comprehensive reference book containing articles on a wide variety of topics

**Examples**

Americana

Brittanica

Compton's

Grolier's

The World Book

© 1997 Good Apple

G27

**epic** ▪ a long narrative work of poetry, prose, or drama that ceremoniously recounts the deeds of a legendary hero

**Examples**

"Hiawatha" by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (poem)

**October (a.k.a.) Ten Days That Shook the World** by Sergei Mikhailovich Eisenstein (drama)

**Odyssey** by Homer (classical)

"Paradise Lost" by John Milton (poem)

**War and Peace** by Leo Tolstoy (novel)

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G28

G30

epitaph

G29

epigram

G32

eulogy

G31

essay

**epigram** ▪ a concise, clever poem that expresses a single observation

G29

**Example**

We have a pretty witty King  
Whose word no man relies on,  
Who never said a foolish thing,  
Nor ever did a wise one:  
—Wilmont, John, 2nd Earl of Rochester

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**epitaph** ▪ a short poem, often engraved on a tombstone, that memorializes someone who has died

G30

**Example**

The Body of  
B. Franklin, Printer  
(Like the Cover of an old Book  
Its Contents torn out  
And stript of its Lettering and Gilding)  
Lies here, food for Worms.  
But the Work shall not be lost;  
For it will (as he believed) appear once more,  
In a new and more elegant Edition  
Revised and corrected  
by the Author

—proposed epitaph of Benjamin Franklin, age 20

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**essay** ▪ a short, formal or informal, written discussion of a subject; composition

G31

**Examples**

"A Few Minutes with Andy Rooney" (collection)  
"How to Make History Dates Stick" by Mark Twain  
"Nature" by Ralph Waldo Emerson  
"The Fire Next Time" by James Baldwin  
"The Fisherwoman's Daughter" by Ursula K. Le Guin

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**eulogy** ▪ a spoken or written tribute praising someone who has died

G32

**Examples**

**Memorial Services in the Congress of the United States and Tributes in \_\_\_\_\_ of Dwight D. Eisenhower, Late a President of the United States** published by the U.S. Government Printing Office  
**Michael Landon: Life, Love & Laughter: A Tribute to a Beloved Actor by the People Who Knew Him Best** by Harry and Pamela Flynn  
**The Legacy of Nehru: A Memorial Tribute** edited by K. Natwar-Singh

G34

**fairy tale**

G33

**fable**

G36

**fiction**

G35

**fantasy**

**fable** • a short story with a moral; commonly uses animal characters with human characteristics

G33

### Examples

- "The Boy Bathing" (There is a time and place for everything.)
- "The Crow and the Pitcher" (Necessity is the mother of invention.)
- "The Fox and the Grapes" (Don't trust the advice of a man in trouble.)
- "The Thief and His Mother" (Spare the rod and spoil the child.)
- "The Wolf in Sheep's Clothing" (Looks can be deceiving.)

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**fairy tale** • a story involving legendary royalty, commoners, and magical characters; often begins with **Once upon a time** . . . and ends with . . . **they lived happily ever after.**

G34

### Examples

- "Cinderella" by Charles Perrault
- "Rumpelstiltskin" by the Brothers Grimm
- "The Frog Prince" by the Brothers Grimm
- "The Little Mermaid" by Hans Christian Andersen
- "The Princess Bride" by William Goldman

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**fantasy** • a fictional work marked by supernatural or magical characters and events that could not happen in real life

G35

### Examples

- High fantasy (set within a created world):
- A Wrinkle in Time** (Camazotz) by Madeleine L'Engle
- Tehanu** (Earthsea) by Ursula K. Le Guin
- The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe** (Narnia) by C. S. Lewis
- The Wizard of Oz** (Oz) by L. Frank Baum
- Low fantasy (set within the real world):
- Charlotte's Web** by E. B. White
- Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH** by Robert O'Brien
- Pippi Longstocking** by Astrid Lindgren
- The Indian in the Cupboard** by Lynne Reid Banks

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**fiction** • a literary work created by the author's imagination; an untrue story

G36

### Examples

- fantasy
- folklore
- novel
- serial
- short story

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G38

**folk tale**

G37

**folklore**

G40

**grue**

G39

**free verse**

**folklore** ▪ the traditional oral culture of a people

**Examples**

- beliefs
- fables
- fairy tales
- folk tales
- legends
- myths
- parables
- practices
- tall tales

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G37

**folk tale** ▪ a magical story that is unique to a cultural group and that has been modified by years of oral retellings prior to being put into print

**Examples**

- Beauty and the Beast** by Jan Brett
- East o' the Sun and West o' the Moon** by P. J. Lynch
- Momotaro, the Peach Boy** by Linda Shute
- Rip Van Winkle** by Washington Irving
- Sundiata, Lion King of Mali** by David Wisniewski

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G38

**free verse** ▪ poetry that follows no standard pattern of rhythm or rhyme

**Examples**

- "Leaves of Grass" by Walt Whitman
- "Paterson" by William Carlos Williams
- Psalms 8:1–9 by King David
- "Thanatopsis" by William Cullen Bryant
- "The North Sea" by Heinrich Heine

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G39

**grue** ▪ a short, simple, gruesome rhyming poem

**Example**

Lizzie Borden took an axe,  
And gave her mother forty whacks.  
When she saw what she had done,  
She gave her father forty-one!  
—Anonymous

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G40

G42

**historical  
fiction**

G41

**haiku**

G44

**humor**

G43

**horror**

**haiku** • a 3-line, 17-syllable poetic form of Japanese origin that describes a single natural image in a 5-7-5 syllabic pattern

**Examples**

Letter's fading ink  
Flows like silent, running streams  
Tears from broken hearts

—R. Howard Blount, Jr.

Eagle wings take flight  
Catching thermal canyon winds  
Soaring over all

—R. Howard Blount, Jr.

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G41

**historical fiction** • an untrue story set in an authentic period from the past and characterized by events that could have happened

**Examples**

**Gone With the Wind** by Margaret Mitchell

**Island of the Blue Dolphins** by Scott O'Dell

**Number the Stars** by Lois Lowry

**Shane** by Jack Schaefer

**The Witch of Blackbird Pond** by Elizabeth George Speare

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**horror** • a literary work marked by elements of extreme suspense told in shocking, gruesome detail; a thriller

**Examples**

**Creepshow** by Stephen King

**Dracula** by Bram Stoker

**Frankenstein** by Mary Shelley

**The Stepsister** by R. L. Stine

**The Tell-Tale Heart** by Edgar Allan Poe

**humor** • a funny literary work

**Examples**

**How to Eat Fried Worms** by Thomas Rockwell

**Sideways Stories from Wayside School** by Louis Sachar

**Soup** by Robert Newton Peck

**The Best Christmas Pageant Ever** by Barbara Robinson

**The Cat Ate My Gymsuit** by Paula Danziger

**Who Put That Hair in My Toothbrush?** by Jerry Spinelli

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G44

G46

**interactive  
fiction**

G45

**informational  
book**

G48

**journalism**

G47

**journal**

**informational book** - nonfiction title that provides extensive data on a particular topic

G45

**Examples**

**A Book Takes Root: The Making of a Picture Book** by Michael Kehoe

**Cowboys** by Martin W. Sandler

**Mardi Gras: A Cajun Country Celebration** by Diane Hoyt-Goldsmith

**The Threatened Florida Black Bear** by Margaret Goff Clark

**When Plague Strikes: The Black Death, Smallpox, AIDS** by James Cross Giblin

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**interactive fiction** - a story that allows the reader to determine the direction the narrative will take

G46

**Examples**

**Choose Your Own Adventure** (Bantam Skylark)

**Find Your Fate Adventure** (Ballantine)

**Nancy Drew and The Hardy Boys Be a Detective Mysteries** (Wanderer)

**Twistaplot** (Scholastic)

**Which Way Books** (Pocket)

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**journal** - a written record of experiences, reflections, and perceptions that is appended on a regular basis

G47

**Examples**

**A Gathering of Days: A New England Girl's 1830-32** by Joan Blois

**Bluewater** : **The Voyage of the Sea Tiger** by Loretta Krupinski

**Pedro's** : **A Voyage with Christopher Columbus** by Pam Conrad

**Strider** by Beverly Cleary

The \_\_\_\_\_ of Beatrix Potter, 1881-1897

**Writing Nature: Henry Thoreau's** \_\_\_\_\_

**journalism** - written pieces that deal with news items and that are published in periodicals or reported through the media

G48

**Examples**

advice column

editorial

feature story

lead story

sports article

weather report

G50

**letter**

G49

**legend**

G52

**limerick**

G51

**light verse**

**legend** ▪ an unverified story passed down orally from generation to generation G49

**Examples**

**How the Animals Got Their Colors** by Michael Rosen

**How Turtle's Back Was Cracked** retold by Gayle Ross

**The \_\_\_\_\_ of the Indian Paintbrush** retold by Tomie dePaola

**The \_\_\_\_\_ of El Dorado** adapted by Nancy Van Laan

**The Seven Voyages of Sinbad the Sailor**

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**letter** ▪ any formal or informal written communication from one person to another G50

**Example**

May 12

Dear Mr. Henshaw,

My teacher read your book about the dog to our class. It was funny. We licked it.

Your freind,

Leigh Botts (boy)

—Cleary, Beverly. **Dear Mr. Henshaw**. Morrow, 1983.

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**light verse** ▪ an amusing form of verse having no serious purpose G51

**Examples**

clerihew

epigram

limerick

nonsense

parody

**limerick** ▪ a humorous 5-line poem in which the first, second, and fifth lines rhyme and contain 3 stresses, while the third and fourth lines rhyme and contain 2 stresses G52

**Examples**

There is a Young Lady, whose nose,  
Continually prospers and grows;  
When it grew out of sight,  
She exclaimed in a fright,  
"Oh! Farewell to the end of my nose!"  
There was an Old Man who said, "Hush!  
I perceive a young bird in this bush!"  
When they said, "Is it small?"  
He replied, "Not at all;  
It is four times as big as the bush!"  
—Edward Lear

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G54

**memoir**

G53

**lyric poem**

G56

**mystery**

G55

**modern  
classic**

169

95

170

**lyric poem** • a form of melodious verse

G53

**Examples**

ballad  
elegy  
hymn  
ode  
psalm  
sonnet

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**memoir** • an autobiographical account concerning a period in one's life

G54

**Examples**

**A Girl from Yamhill** by Beverly Cleary  
**An American Childhood** by Annie Dillard  
**I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings** by Maya Angelou  
**Keeping Faith:** \_\_\_\_\_ **of a President**  
by Jimmy Carter  
**Prairie-Town Boy** by Carl Sandburg

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**modern classic** • a newly published literary work that has gained considerable attention and has been widely read in recent years

G55

**Examples**

**Flowers for Algernon** by Daniel Keyes  
**Of Mice and Men** by John Steinbeck  
**The Color Purple** by Alice Walker  
**The Yearling** by Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings  
**To Kill a Mockingbird** by Harper Lee

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**mystery** • a literary work featuring a plot that revolves around an unsolved crime

G56

**Examples**

**Encyclopedia Brown, Boy Detective**  
by Donald Sobol  
**Murder on the Orient Express** (Hercule Poirot)  
by Agatha Christie  
**The Case of the Velvet Claws** (Perry Mason)  
by Erle Stanley Gardner  
**The Dollhouse Murders** by Betty Ren Wright  
**The Hound of the Baskervilles** (Sherlock Holmes)  
by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

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G58

**narrative  
poem**

G57

**myth**

G60

**nonsense**

G59

**nonfiction**

**myth** ▪ an ancient story of gods, goddesses, and superhuman heroes that explains events from a cultural standpoint

**Examples**

- Isis and Osiris (Egyptian)
- King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table (Celtic)
- The Birth of Venus (Roman)
- The Twelve Labors of Hercules (Greek)
- Thor, the God of Thunder (Norse)

G57

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**narrative poem** ▪ a poem that tells a story

**Examples**

- "Casey at the Bat" by Ernest Law Thayer
- "Paul Revere's Ride" by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
- "The Cremation of Sam McGee" by Robert W. Service
- "The Highwayman" by Alfred Noyes
- "The Night Before Christmas" by Clement C. Moore

G58

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**nonfiction** ▪ any true written work

**Examples**

- biography
- essay
- informational book
- journalism
- textbook

G59

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**nonsense** ▪ an amusing poem characterized by uses of nonexistent terms and illogical ideas

**Examples**

- From "Jabberwocky":  
 'Twas brillig, and the slithy toves  
 Did gyre and gimble in the wabe:  
 All mimsy were the borogoves,  
 And the mome raths outgrabe.  
 —Carroll, Lewis. "Jabberwocky."
- From "The Jumbies":  
 And everyone said, "If we only live,  
 We too will go to sea in a Sieve, —  
 To the hills of the Chankly Bore!"  
 Far and few, far and few,  
 Are the lands where the Jumbies live;  
 Their heads are green, and their hands are blue,  
 And they went to sea in a Sieve.  
 —Lear, Edward. "The Jumbies."

G60

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G62

**novelette**

G61

**novel**

G64

**nursery  
rhyme**

G63

**novella**

99

177

178

**novel** ▪ a book-length work of fictional prose with a complex extended plot

G61

**Examples**

**Anne of Green Gables** by L. M. Montgomery

**Little Lord Fauntleroy** by Frances Hodgson Burnett

**Stepping on the Cracks** by Mary Downing Hahn

**The Cay** by Theodore Taylor

**The Yearling** by Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings

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**novelette** ▪ a cheaply produced, sensational short novel; pulp fiction

G62

**Examples**

**Destry Rides Again** by Max Brand

**Magdalena, the Beautiful Mexican Maid** by Ned Buntline

**The Black Avenger** by Ned Buntline

**The Resurrection of Jimber-Jaw** by Edgar Rice Burroughs

**Wake for the Living** by Ray Bradbury

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**novella** ▪ a fictional work of intermediate length and complexity that place it between a short story and a novel; a short novel

G63

**Examples**

**Animal Farm** by George Orwell

**Breakfast at Tiffany's** by Truman Capote

**Sarah, Plain and Tall** by Patricia MacLachlan

**Stone Fox** by John Reynolds Gardiner

**The Friendship** by Mildred D. Taylor

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**nursery rhyme** ▪ traditional rhythmic rhyming verse for young children

G64

**Examples**

"Humpty Dumpty"

"Jack and Jill"

"Little Boy Blue"

"Old Mother Hubbard"

"There Was a Crooked Man"

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**parable**

**ode**

G68

G67

**pastoral poem**

**parallel poem**

101

181

182

**ode** • a lengthy, formal lyric poem with a serious tone G65

**Examples**

"Dejection" by Samuel Taylor Coleridge

"\_\_\_\_\_ to a Nightingale" by John Keats

"\_\_\_\_\_ to Spring" by Thomas Gray

"The Wreck of the Deutschland" by Gerard Manley Hopkins

"To the Memory of My Beloved Master, William Shakespeare"  
by Ben Jonson

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**parable** • an allegorical story that illustrates a religious lesson or moral G66

**Examples**

The House on the Rock (Matthew 7)

The Lost Sheep (Matthew 18)

The Mustard Seed (Mark 4)

The Prodigal Son (Luke 15)

The Ten Talents (Matthew 25)

—**The Holy Bible (KJV)**

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**parallel poem** • verse in which each line begins or ends with the same word or phrase G67

**Example**

"I can . . ."

I can run;

I can try;

I can dream;

I can fly;

I can do anything if I aim for the sky.

—Strouf, Judie. **The Literature Teacher's Book of Lists**,  
The Center for Applied Research in Education, 1993. Used  
by permission of Prentice Hall/Career & Personal  
Development.

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**pastoral poem** • verse about country life, especially related to shepherding; idyll G68

**Examples**

**As You Like It**, II. v., by William Shakespeare

"Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard" by Thomas Gray

"The Deserted Village" by Oliver Goldsmith

"The Faerie Queen" by Edmund Spenser

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G70

play

periodical

G69

G72

prequel

poetry

G71

103

185

186

**periodical** ▪ a regularly issued news publication; newspaper, magazine, bulletin

G69

**Examples**

**Ladies' Home Journal**

**National Examiner**

**Publisher's Weekly**

**The New York Times**

**The Tampa Tribune**

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G70

**play** ▪ a drama acted out onstage

**Examples**

**Romeo and Juliet** by William Shakespeare

**The Mousetrap** by Agatha Christie

**Bell, Book and Candle** by John Van Druten

Places where plays are performed:

Broadway

off-Broadway

community theatre

dinner theatre

thespians/drama club

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**poetry** ▪ creative writing characterized by formal patterns of verse, thought and emotion, lines and stanzas, rhythm and rhyme

G71

**Examples**

free verse

grue

haiku

limerick

sonnet

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G72

**prequel** ▪ a companion literary piece, complete in itself, that gives an account of events prior to the narrative of an earlier work

**Example**

**Garden of Shadows**, the first book sequentially in "The Dollanganger Series" by V. C. Andrews, was the last to be published.

**Garden of Shadows**, 1987

**Flowers in the Attic**, 1979

**Petals on the Wind**, 1980

**If There Be Thorns**, 1981

**Seeds of Yesterday**, 1983

prose

propaganda

quatrain

proverb

**propaganda** ▪ information or ideas distributed by commercial advertisers or the promoters of a political belief or cause

G73

**Examples**

bandwagoning	glittering generality	prestige identification
card stacking	innuendo	red herring
exigency	name calling	snob appeal
flag waving	plain folks	testimonial
		transfer

"I'm selling wishes child." Blinn spread his hands as if it was the most obvious thing in the world. "Anything you want—anything you could possibly imagine—can be yours!"

All of us on the bench looked at one another and Polly kind of giggled. I wondered if Mr. Blinn was crazy in the head.

"I would love to get a wish," Rowena said. "But it all sounds so . . . so incredible."

"I deal in incredible," Blinn replied with a vast grin. "But before I go further, I must have my fee. Fifty cents from each of you, if you please."

—Brittain, Bill. **The Wish-Giver**. Harper & Row, 1983.

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**prose** ▪ writing characterized by sentences and paragraphs; any type of writing that is not poetry

G74

**Examples**

biography  
essay  
fiction  
short story  
textbook

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**proverb** ▪ a short, widely used saying that expresses a general truth

G75

**Examples**

A [good] name [is] rather to be chosen than great riches, [and] loving favour rather than silver and gold. (Proverbs 22:1)

All that glitters is not gold.

Don't cry over spilt milk.

The pen is mightier than the sword.

When the cat's away, the mice will play.

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**quatrain** ▪ a 4-line rhyming stanza or poem

G76

**Example**

"The Night Has a Thousand Eyes"

The night has a thousand eyes,

And the day but one;

Yet the light of the bright world dies

With the dying sun.

The mind has a thousand eyes,

And the heart but one;

Yet the light of a whole life dies

When love is done.

—Bourdillon, Francis William, in **The Book of Virtues for Young People** by William J. Bennett. Silver Burdett Press, 1996.

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**reference  
books**

**realistic  
fiction**

**science  
fiction**

**romance**

**realistic fiction** ▪ a created literary piece involving elements that could actually occur in life

**Examples**

- adventure
- contemporary fiction
- historical fiction
- romance
- western

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G77

**reference books** ▪ volumes containing extensive information within a specific area

**Examples**

- almanac
- atlas
- dictionary
- encyclopedia
- thesaurus

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G78

**romance** ▪ a literary work featuring a plot that revolves around a love affair

**Examples**

- Bingo Brown, Gypsy Lover** by Betsy Byars
- Ivanhoe** by Sir Walter Scott
- Love Story** by Erich Segal
- Romeo and Juliet** by William Shakespeare
- The Reluctant Widow** by Georgette Heyer

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G79

**science fiction** ▪ a futuristic work of literary fantasy characterized by time and space travel, nonexistent technology, alien creatures, and other improbable scientific events

**Examples**

- A Journey to the Center of the Earth** by Jules Verne
- A Wrinkle in Time** by Madeleine L'Engle
- Jurassic Park** by Michael Crichton
- My Teacher Is an Alien** by Bruce Coville
- The Martian Chronicles** by Ray Bradbury
- War of the Worlds** by H. G. Wells

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G80

G82

**sequel**

G81

**script**

G84

**sermon**

G83

**serial**

109

197

198

**script** ▪ the written version of a play or motion picture G81

**Example**

(From Act I)

KATE

She can't see.

[*She takes the lamp from him, moves it before the child's face.*]

She can't see!

KELLER [*hoarsely*]

Helen.

KATE

Or hear. When I screamed she didn't blink. Not an eyelash—

KELLER

Helen. Helen!

KATE

She can't hear you.

KELLER

**Helen!**

—Gibson, William. **The Miracle Worker**. Knopf, 1956, 1957.

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**sequel** ▪ a companion literary piece, complete in itself, that continues the narrative of an earlier work G82

**Examples**

**Hatchet**, 1986 —→ **The River**, 1991 —→ **Brian's Winter**, 1996 by Gary Paulsen

**Indian in the Cupboard**, 1980 —→ **The Return of the Indian**, 1986 —→ **The Secret of the Indian**, 1989 —→ **The Mystery of the Cupboard**, 1993 by Lynne Reid Banks

**serial** ▪ a collection of stories published in sequential installments that feature the same characters, setting, or theme G83

**Examples**

"Culpepper Adventures: Dunc and Amos Meet the Slasher" by Gary Paulsen

"Fear Street" and "Goosebumps" by R. L. Stine

"Sweet Valley High" by Francine Pascal

"The Babysitters Club" by Ann M. Martin

"The Hardy Boys" by Franklin W. Dixon

**sermon** ▪ a religious discourse offering words of encouragement and correction G84

**Examples**

"Let's Keep Christmas" by Peter Marshall

"Loving Your Enemies" by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

"Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God" by Jonathan Edwards

"The Gift of Salvation" by Billy Graham

"Ye Must Be Born Again" by Billy Sunday

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G85

**soliloquy**

**short  
story**

G88

**tabloid**

201

==

G87

**sonnet**

202

**short story** ▪ a brief work of fiction that can be read in one sitting

**Examples**

- "A Christmas Memory" by Truman Capote
- "The Lady or the Tiger?" by Frank R. Stockton
- "The Lottery" by Shirley Jackson
- "The Ransom of Red Chief" by O. Henry
- "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty" by James Thurber

G85

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**soliloquy** ▪ a dramatic monologue given by a lone character

**Example**

- To be or not to be: that is the question:  
Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to suffer  
The slings and arrows of outrageous fortune,  
Or take arms against a sea of troubles,  
And by opposing end them. . . .  
—Shakespeare, William. **Hamlet**, Act II, Scene I.

G86

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**sonnet** ▪ a 14-line rhyming lyric poem with lines of equal length that follows one of several conventional rhyme schemes

**Examples**

- "Bright Star, Would I Were Steadfast as Thou Art" by John Keats
- "Leda and the Swan" by William Butler Yeats
- "Ozymandias" by Percy Bysshe Shelley
- "Symptoms" by Robert Lowell
- "Upon Westminster Bridge" by William Wordsworth

G87

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**tabloid** ▪ a highly illustrated, half-size newspaper featuring sensational stories and general gossip

**Examples**

- Globe
- National Enquirer
- Sun
- The Star
- Weekly World News

G88

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tanka

tall tale

textbook

tercet

**tall tale** ▪ a humorous, highly exaggerated story detailing the impossible feats of a folk character

G89

**Examples**

Swamp Angel  
Pecos Bill  
Paul Bunyan  
John Henry  
Slappy Hooper

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**tanka** ▪ a 5-line, 31-syllable poetic form of Japanese origin in a 5-7-5-7-7 syllabic pattern; related to haiku

G90

**Example**

The rain spills from clouds  
Over thirsty grass and trees  
It mists the landscape  
Like a soft gentle shower  
Spring awakens the whole world.

—From **Calliope** by Greta Barclay Lipson, Ed.D. and Jane A. Romatowski, Ed.D. © 1981 by Good Apple, an imprint of Modern Curriculum, Simon & Schuster Elementary. Used by permission.

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**tercet** ▪ a 3-line rhymed stanza or poem; a triplet

G91

**Example**

“The Flies and the Honey Pot”  
A jar of honey chanced to spill  
Its contents on the windowsill  
In many a viscous pool and rill.  
The flies, attracted by the sweet,  
Began so greedily to eat,  
They smeared their fragile wings and feet.  
With many a twitch and pull in vain  
They gasped to get away again,  
And died in aromatic pain.

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**textbook** ▪ a book adopted by schools for the formal study of an academic subject area

G92

**Examples**

**Introduction to Literature** by Holt Rinehart Winston  
**Mathematics Plus** by Harcourt Brace Jovanovich  
**Science Plus: Technology and Society** by Holt Rinehart Winston  
**The Music Connection** by Silver Burdett Ginn  
**The Writer's Craft** by McDougal, Littell  
**World Geography** by Prentice Hall

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—Aesop. **The Book of Virtues for Young People** by William J. Bennett. Silver Burdett Press, 1996.

tragedy

thesaurus

western

trilogy

**thesaurus** - a reference book used for finding synonyms and antonyms of words

**Examples**

**Clear and Simple** \_\_\_\_\_ published by Grosset & Dunlap

**Roget's International** \_\_\_\_\_ published by HarperCollins

**Webster's New World** \_\_\_\_\_ published by Simon & Schuster

G93

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**tragedy** - a serious play or literary work with an unhappy or disastrous ending

**Examples**

**Death of a Salesman** by Arthur Miller

**King Lear** by William Shakespeare

**Long Day's Journey Into Night** by Eugene O'Neill

**Polly Vaughn** (traditional English ballad)

**The Drowning of Stephan Jones** by Bette Greene

G94

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**trilogy** - a collection of three related literary works

**Examples**

**The Lord of the Rings** \_\_\_\_\_, three books by J. R. R. Tolkien

**The Fellowship of the Ring**

**The Two Towers**

**The Return of the King**

**The Time** \_\_\_\_\_, three books by Madeleine L'Engle

**A Wrinkle in Time**

**A Wind in the Door**

**A Swiftly Tilting Planet**

**western** - a literary work with a plot that revolves around frontier life in the American West

**Examples**

**Hondo** by Louis L'Amour

**Lonesome Dove** by Larry McMurtry

**Riders of the Purple Sage** by Zane Grey

**Shane** by Jack Schaefer

**The Outcasts of Poker Flat** by Bret Harte

G96

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BT2

**afterword**

BT1

**acknowledgments**

BT4

**appendix**

BT3

**anonymous**

BT1

**acknowledgments** - a word of appreciation to individuals or groups who provided significant assistance in the creation of a book

### Example

Special thanks go to Mary E. Woodruff of the Vermont Women's History Project and Dr. Robert M. Brown of the Museum of American Textile History, who read this book in manuscript and offered suggestions and corrections. Any errors of fact which remain are, of course, my own.  
—Paterson, Katherine. **Lyddie**. Viking, 1991.

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BT2

**afterword** - a word from the author immediately following the text or narrative; author's note

### Example

How much of Annemarie's story is true? I know I will be asked that. Let me try to tell you, here, where fact ends and fiction begins.

Annemarie Johansen is a child of my imagination, though she grew there from the stories told to me by my friend Annelise Platt, to whom this book is dedicated, who was herself a child in Copenhagen during the long years of the German occupation. . . .

—Lowry, Lois. **Number the Stars**. Houghton Mifflin, 1989.

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BT3

**anonymous** - a term used when the author is unknown or wishes to remain unknown

**Examples** (Titles by Unknown Authors)

**Beowulf**

**Go Ask Alice**

**Hindu Myths**

**Jay's Journal**

**Sir Gawain and the Green Knight**

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BT4

**appendix** - a supplement to a book, usually included in the back matter

### Example

### Appendices

A. Garth Williams, the Illustrator

B. The Manuscripts

C. Spiders

D. E. B. White's Letters and Comments About **Charlotte's Web**

E. Readers' Responses

F. Critical Appraisals

G. Recommended Reading

—White, E. B. and Peter F. Neumeyer. **The Annotated Charlotte's Web**. HarperCollins, 1994.



BT6

**back  
matter**

BT5

**author**

BT8

**bio**

BT7

**bibliography**

119

217

218

**author** - the writer of a book

### Examples

Pam Conrad  
Gloria Houston  
Katherine Paterson  
Gary Paulsen  
Bill Wallace

BT5

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**back matter** - book parts located behind the main text of the book

### Examples

appendix  
glossary  
sources  
bibliography  
index

BT6

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**bibliography** - list of sources or titles used or recommended by an author

### Example

Four books stimulated my thinking when I was deciding how to treat the subject of plagues in history. They were:

**Plagues and Peoples** by William H. McNeill (New York: Doubleday, 1977).

**The Doctor in History** by Howard W. Haggard (New York: Dorset Press, 1989).

**Disease and History** by Frederick F. Cartwright, in collaboration with Michael D. Boddiss (New York: Dorset Press, 1991).

**Rats, Lice, and History: The Biography of a Bacillus** by Hans Zinsser (Boston: The Atlantic Monthly Press/Little, Brown and Company, 1934).

—Giblin, James Cross. **When Plague Strikes: The Black Death, Smallpox, AIDS**. HarperCollins, 1995. pp. 197–198.

BT7

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**bio** - a short biography of an author or illustrator

### Example

Mem Fox is the beloved author of many popular picture books, including Harcourt Brace's **Possum Magic**, **Guess What?**, **Koala Lou**, and most recently, **Time for Bed**. She lives with her family near the sea in Adelaide, South Australia, but has never seen a real pirate. The inspiration for **Tough Boris** came during a writing exercise assigned by one of her students at Flinders University, where she is a senior lecturer in language arts.

—Fox, Mem. **Tough Boris**. Harcourt Brace, 1994.

BT8

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BT10

copyright

BT9

chapter

BT12

dedication

BT11

copyright  
date

**chapter** ▪ a major subdivision of a book

BT9

**Example**

- I Callers
- II Fences
- III School
- IV Hogs
- V Overall

—Lenski, Lois. **Strawberry Girl**. HarperCollins, 1945, renewed 1973.

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**copyright** ▪ a form of protection provided by U.S. law to authors of "original works of authorship," including literature, drama, music, and other genres. The owner of the copyright has the exclusive right to do or authorize others to do such things as reproduce the work, distribute the work, or perform the work.

BT10

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**copyright date** ▪ the year a book is published

BT11

**Examples**

- ©1997
- ©1940
- ©1912
- ©1890
- ©1872

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**dedication** ▪ statement identifying an individual or group an author wishes to remember

BT12

**Examples**

To my father, Haven Peck . . .  
a quiet and gentle man  
whose work was killing pigs

—Peck, Robert Newton. **A Day No Pigs Would Die**. Knopf, 1972.

For all the children

To whom we entrust the future

—Lowry, Lois. **The Giver**. Houghton Mifflin, 1993.

BT14

**edition  
line**

BT13

**designer**

BT16

**epigraph**

BT15

**editor**

225

123

226

**designer** - a graphic artist who creates the overall appearance of a book, including selection of paper, colors, fonts, and images

BT13

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**edition line** - a line on the copyright page that indicates the book's order of printing

BT14

### Examples

These lines indicate first editions.

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

ABCDE

First Impression

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**editor** - a publisher's representative who acquires and prepares manuscripts from authors for publication

BT15

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**epigraph** - a quotation usually from a speech, poem, or scripture placed at the front of a book that is indicative of the book's theme

BT16

### Example

A farmer's heart is rabbit soft,

And farmer eyes are blue.

But farmers' eyes are eagle fierce

And look a man right through.

—Peck, Robert Newton. **A Day No Pigs Would Die**. Knopf, 1972.

### Examples

Virginia Buckley

James Cross Giblin

Margaret K. McElderry

George Nicholson

Maxwell Perkins

BT18

**folio**

BT17

**epilogue**

BT20

**front matter**

BT19

**foreword**

**epilogue** ▪ a summarizing or concluding passage at the end of a story; a passage that tells what happened after the story

BT17

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### Example

Sadako Sasaki died on October 25, 1955.

Her classmates folded three hundred and fifty-six cranes so that one thousand were buried with Sadako. In a way she got her wish. She will live on in the hearts of people for a long time.

—Coerr, Eleanor. **Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes**. Putnam, 1977.

**folio** ▪ a page number

BT18

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**foreword** ▪ an introductory word from the author or guest writer

BT19

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### Example

An Open Letter from Johanna Hurwitz

Dear Readers,

In this book about corresponding with authors and illustrators, let me begin by writing a letter to you. When I was growing up in the 1940s and 50s, teachers never thought to ask their students to write to authors. Nevertheless, one day when I was about twelve years old, I felt so sorry to reach the end of the book I was reading that I just had to write to its author. The book was **Betsy and Tacy Go Downtown** and the author was Maud Hart Lovelace. I did not know where she lived or even if she was alive. Yet the very act of writing to Mrs. Lovelace and telling her how much I liked her story made me feel good. . . . —Johanna Hurwitz

—Blount, Jr., R. Howard. **The Address Book of Children's Authors and Illustrators**. Instructional Fair ▪ T. S. Denison, 1994. p. 8. Reprinted by permission of T. S. Denison.

**front matter** ▪ the book parts located before the main text of the book

BT20

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### Examples

acknowledgments	frontispiece
ad card	half title
copyright page	introduction
dedication	preface
epigraph	table of contents
foreword	title page



BT22

**illustrator**

BT21

**glossary**

BT24

**introduction**

BT23

**index**

**glossary** - an alphabetical listing of book-related terms and definitions

BT21

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**Example**

**barrel:** standard of measurement for cranberries. One barrel equals 100 pounds of cranberries.

**bed:** one portion of a cranberry bog, usually rectangular in shape and two to four acres in size

**bog:** a type of wetland on which cranberries can be farmed. Cranberry bogs have a peat bottom and acidic soil.

—Burns, Diane L. **Cranberries: Fruit of the Bogs.** Carolrhoda, 1994.

**illustrator** - the book's artist

BT22

**Examples**

Jan Brett

Leo & Diane Dillon

Thomas Locker

David Macaulay

Jerry Pinkney

Patricia Polacco

Chris Van Allsburg

**index** - an alphabetical listing of important words and the page numbers where they are used in the text

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**Example**

Acadia, 6–8, 14, 31

Ash Wednesday, 11, 30

bandits, 10

bayou, 5

boudin, 17

buvette, 13

Cajun, 31

ancestors, 5, 6, 7, 10, 30

history, 6–8, 14

—Hoyt-Goldsmith, Diane. **Mardi Gras: A Cajun Country Celebration.** Holiday House, 1995.

**introduction** - a fairly long note from the author or another person that provides important background information for the book

BT24

**Example**

... Imaginative though I was as a kid, I never pictured a mailman knocking at the door of a writer and saying something mundane like, "Lots of mail from your fans today." Nor could I envision the writer opening a letter, reading a letter, or chuckling or weeping at a letter from a person like me.

Yet here I sit today, chewing on a strand of hair while I ponder a sentence, and on my desk is a stack of mail from readers who realize that I am no farther away from them than a first-class stamp.

I wish I were young again, with a favorite book by my side and a pen and paper in my hand. . . . —Lois Lowry

—Read Magazine. **Dear Author.** Conari Press, 1995. p. ix.

BT26

**permissions**

BT25

**ISBN**

BT28

**prologue**

237

129

BT27

**preface**

238

**ISBN** ■ International Standard Book Number;  
the universal order number

BT25

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**Example**

1-56417-665-7

—Blount, Jr., R. Howard. **Language Arts Lingo: Glossaries and Flashcards for 200+ Terms**. Good Apple, 1997.

**permissions** ■ a list of statements giving permission  
to use excerpts from other copyrighted works

BT26

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**Example**

"I'll Be Back," © 1964 Northern Songs Limited; "It's Only Love,"  
© 1965 Northern Songs Limited; "Revolution," © 1968 Northern  
Songs Limited; "I'm Looking Through You," © 1965 Northern  
Songs Limited; "Can't Buy Me Love," © 1964 Northern Songs  
Limited; "Baby's in Black," © 1964 Northern Songs Limited; "In My  
Life," © 1965 Northern Songs Limited: All songs by John Lennon  
and Paul McCartney. All Rights Controlled and Administered by MCA  
MUSIC PUBLISHING, A Division of MCA INC., New York NY 10019.  
Under license from ATV MUSIC. USED BY PERMISSION. ALL RIGHTS  
RESERVED.

—Rylant, Cynthia. **But I'll Be Back Again**. Orchard, 1989.

**preface** ■ a brief note from an author

BT27

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**Example**

Some of this story is true. Some of it's lies. No brontosaurus  
has ever been found in Nebraska, but I'm partial to Nebraska,  
and all my own fossils and bones come from there. And while I  
never heard of a young girl in Nebraska taking part in a  
dinosaur adventure, there was once a young girl in England in  
1810 who made an important dinosaur discovery with the help  
of her brother.

So this story could have happened like it says, almost, but it  
didn't really, not exactly anyway.

—Conrad, Pam. **My Daniel**. HarperCollins, 1989.

**prologue** ■ an introductory or opening passage at the  
beginning of a story; a passage that tells what happened  
prior to the story

BT28

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**Example**

They say Maniac Magee was born in a dump. They say his  
stomach was a cereal box and his heart a sofa spring.

They say he kept an eight-inch cockroach on a leash and that  
rats stood guard over him while he slept.

They say if you knew he was coming and you sprinkled salt  
on the ground and he ran over it, within two or three blocks he  
would be as slow as everybody else.

They say.

—Spinelli, Jerry. **Maniac Magee**. Little, Brown, 1990.

BT30

**public  
domain**

BT29

**pseudonym**

BT32

**sources**

BT31

**publisher**

**pseudonym** ▪ an assumed name some writers use for publishing purposes; a pen name

BT29

### Examples

Pseudonym	Given Name
Mark Twain	Samuel Langhorne Clemens
Eve Bunting	Anne Evelyn Bolton
M. E. Kerr, Vin Packer	Marijane Meaker
Laura Lee Hope, Franklin W. Dixon	Edward Stratemeyer
Hadley Irwin	Lee Hadley and Ann Irwin
Dr. Seuss	Theodore Seuss Geisel

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**public domain** ▪ literary works no longer protected by copyright laws

BT30

### Examples

anonymous works  
classics  
government publications  
pieces published, yet never copyrighted  
works 50 years after the copyright owner's death

**publisher** ▪ a company that prints and distributes books

BT31

### Examples

Harcourt Brace  
HarperCollins  
Houghton Mifflin  
Random House  
Simon & Schuster

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**sources** ▪ a bibliography of published matter used as research for the book

BT32

### Example

DOUGLASS'S AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL WORKS  
**Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave.** Written by Himself. Boston: Anti-Slavery Office, 1845.  
(Available now in several paperback reprints.)

BIOGRAPHIES OF FREDERICK DOUGLASS  
Bontemps, Arna. **Free at Last: The Life of Frederick Douglass.** New York: Dodd, Mead, 1971.

OTHER WRITINGS ON DOUGLASS  
Blight, David W. **Frederick Douglass' Civil War: Keeping Faith in Jubilee.** Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1989.

—Meltzer, Milton ed. **Frederick Douglass: in His Own Words.** Harcourt Brace, 1995.

BT33

BT50

leaf

BT49

hardcover

BT52

paperback

BT51

page

**hardcover** ▪ a book with a rigid binding and cover

BT49

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**leaf** ▪ one sheet of paper; two pages

BT50

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**page** ▪ one side of a leaf

BT51

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**paperback** ▪ a book with a soft cover; also called a softcover

BT52

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BT54

**spine**

BT53

**recto**

BT56

**verso**

BT55

**title page**

249

143

250

**recto** - the front side of a leaf; a right-hand page

BT53

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**spine** - the folded and bound edge of a book; backstrip

BT54

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**title page** - the page listing the book's title, author, illustrator, publisher, and place of publication

BT55

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**verso** - the back side of a leaf; a left-hand page

BT56

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# LANGUAGE ARTS LINGGO

## Glossaries and Flashcards for 200+ Terms

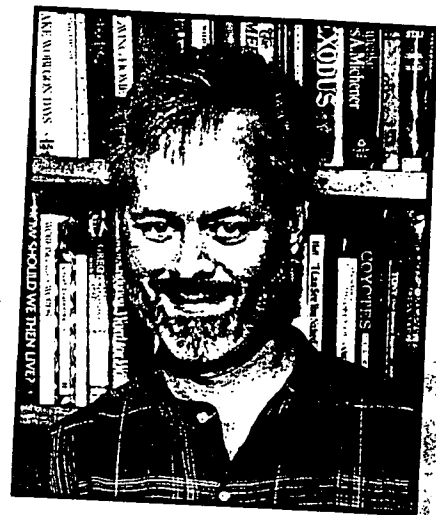
BY R. HOWARD BLOUNT, JR.

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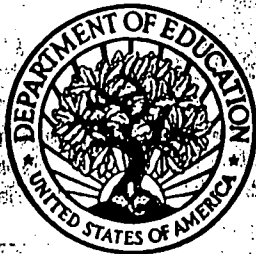
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